Daily Report

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Welcomes Iraq-Iran Direct Talks

JN0507115190 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1020 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Tunis, 5 Jul (WAKH)—The Arab League General Secretariat has expressed sincere joy over progress in the peace process between Iraq and Iran as reflected in the start of UN-sponsored direct negotiations between the foreign ministers of the two countries to bring about just and comprehensive peace in pursuance of Security Council Resolution no. 598.

Meanwhile, Arab League Secretary General Cheldi Klibi said in a statement published in Tunis on the occasion: The Arab countries salute this step and pray for its continuation and success in creating the appropriate atmosphere for achieving peace in the region in the interest of its peoples and in a manner that bolsters the relations of friendship and cooperation among the region's countries.

Iraqi and Iranian Foreign Ministers Tariq 'Aziz and 'Ali Akbar Velayati met Tuesday in Geneva in the presence of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. It was the first direct meeting since Gulf peace efforts began.

Palestinian Affairs

Israeli Planes Raid PFLP-GC Lebanon Position

Several Injured

JN0607065090 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0636 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Brother strugglers, we have just received the following: At 0745 [0545 GMT] today, a formation of Zionist warplanes raided a naval position belonging to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] in northern Lebanon. A number of our heroes in the position was injured and taken to the hospital. We will furnish you with more details as soon as we receive them.

Radio Details Attack

JN0607065690 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 0644 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Brother strugglers, we have just received the following: Four Zionist warplanes raided a Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] position in the Sultan Ya'qub area in the southern al-Biqa' in Lebanon this morning. No other details are yet available, but we will furnish you with such details when we receive them.

Official Dismisses Israeli Claims on Immigrants

JN2906175290 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Jun 90

[Text] In exclusive comments to WAFA on the claims of Israeli government leaders that Soviet immigrants will not be settled in the occupied Palestinian territories, PLO Executive Committee member brother Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas] has said: Ministers in the Shamir government have been recently saying that the Israeli Government will not build houses in the Jewish settlements of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for Soviet Jewish immigrants.

These statements gave rise to reactions in the United States, Europe, and elsewhere. What concerns us here is to clarify that these statements are no more than a process of political delusion whose main goal is to absorb the international campaign being waged against Jewish immigration because it is the central issue facing Israel.

Yitzhaq Shamir expressed this very clearly on 16 June when he declared that absorbing the immigrants was the real test of his government's existence since the government's program sees colonization and settlement in Israeli territory as the national right of every Jew.

We draw the attention of world governments, states, and public opinion to the dangers of Israel's actions and the continued flood of immigrants after Shamir's extremist government was formed, and we also confirm the importance of continuing the international campaign of pressure on Israeli leaders so they will respond to international legitimacy and accept the principle of international supervision of immigration and settlement, as well as accept the political process and open a dialogue with the PLO to reach a settlement based on the principle of a balanced solution in accordance with international resolutions guaranteeing Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab lands and setting up the Palestinian state.

Israel's refusal to proceed with the political process to settle the struggle and talk to the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is practical evidence of the falsehood and hypocrisy of these statements.

We in the PLO look to the international community to continue pressuring the Israeli Government and stepping up international action to make it respond to the appeal for peace, because that alone is the guarantee for preventing settlement and colonization. It is the way to eliminate Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories and the road to peace and security in the region.

'Arafat Asks U.S. To End Pro-Israeli 'Bias'

JN0607081190 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Brother Palestinian president Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a message to Mrs. Absa Claude Beckers-Diallo, Senegalese ambassador at the United Nations

and chairwoman of the committee for the Palestinian people's exercise of their inalienable rights, on the occasion of a seminar of experts on the Palestine question at the United Nations' headquarters entitled: Peace and Justice for the Palestinian People is a (?Necessity) for 1990; and a non-governmental organizations' seminar entitled: The PLO and its Role in the Economic, Educational, and Social Growth of the Palestinian People and its Political Program for Achieving the Palestinian State.

In his message, brother Abu-'Ammar called on participants in the two seminars to defend the justness of the Palestine question and our people's struggle. He expressed his conviction that the participants would take every measure necessary to highlight the dangers in Israel's continued denial of our people's national rights.

After the brother president reviewed the developments in the Palestine question, concentrating on the situation inside the occupied homeland after the formation of Shamir's extreme rightist government, he asked the United States to end its policy of blind bias toward Israel. He held it responsible for the events in the region and the serious dangers they pose.

Abu-Sharif Asks U.S. To Apply Foreign Aid Law

JN0507184790 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Brother Bassam Abu-Sharif, media adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, has described the Israeli Government's decision to approve Sharon's project to receive and settle Jewish immigrants in occupied Palestine, as a clear declaration of the Israeli Government's determination to proceed with its plan to colonize the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and to seize land owned by Palestinian citizens and settle Jewish immigrants on Palestinian territory.

In a statement distributed in Tunis this evening [as heard], Abu-Sharif said that the decision flagrantly defies and violates the Geneva Convention requiring immediate action by all countries who have signed it.

He added that the Israeli Government's decision, which it is implementing through the force of the occupation army, is also a challenge to the superpowers, first of all the United States, and to the EEC. It runs completely counter to what President George Bush has often declared, that the establishment of settlements and housing facilities in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem is a clear violation of international law and U.S. policy. The Palestinian official asked the U.S. President and his administration to take steps in accordance with U.S. Foreign Aid Law No. 502 providing for the suspension of U.S. aid to any country that violates human rights and their convention. He stated that the Palestinian people's resistance to the confiscation of Palestinian land by the occupation forces and Zionist settlers is an indivisible part of their resistance to the occupation in keeping with the UN Charter.

PLO Radio Evaluates U.S. Mideast Objectives

JN0507203290 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1754 GMT 5 Jul 90

["Spotlight" feature: "President Bush's Optimism and the Unachievable Objectives of the United States"]

[Text] Dear Brothers: U.S. President Bush has expressed the belief that we all must remain optimistic over the future of the Middle East peace process. To strengthen this full-blown optimism, the U.S. President offers the following proposals:

First, to refrain from putting pressure on Israel and to refrain from trying to twist its arm, which is bent on pursuing settlement and expansionist policies. Second, to threaten the PLO and the Arab states and to bring all types of pressure to bear on them for defending their dignity, future, and independence, and the freedom of their people. Third, to increase steadily all types of military, political, financial, economic, and cultural support for Israel and even to make Israel a recipient of aid more generous than that given to U.S. states, northern or southern. Fourth, to mildly and quietly express the United States' dissatisfaction with Israel's continued expansion of Jewish settlement activity through the endorsement of the new Sharon plan in the occupied Arab territories in general and in Jerusalem in particular. This expression of dissatisfaction is to be conveyed in a civilized manner. Besides, it is being expressed at a time when U.S. aid continues to be given to Israel to enable it to build settlements, to secure all the needed requirements for these settlers, and to expand the potential areas targeted for settlement activities to make them include southern Lebanon—or the border strip first—to pave the way for a more comprehensive expansion of settlement activities. Fifth, to continue to assert that providing technological assistance to the USSR must be contingent upon the continued, unrestricted, and unconditional influx of Soviet Jewish immigrants. Sixth, to ponder deeply how to find new ways to quash and exterminate the Palestinian intifadah and to use American brainpower and technology to invent new means and tools to achieve this objective, which is dear to the U.S. Administration. Moreover, the U.S. Administration is ready to offer its special expertise obtained in Vietnam, Nicaragua, and other countries. Seventh, to examine thoroughly the way to fragment Palestinian national unity, to invent elusive alternatives, or to support agents, village leagues, and organizations in the hope that it—that is, the U.S. Administration or its representatives at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem—can break this Palestinian national unity which is too powerful to be broken. It is planned that the U.S. Administration will then claim that it does not see any people or any official representatives in front of it to hold talks with or to open a dialogue with.

These are some of the declared American proposals. These are also the very causes of President Bush's

strategic sluggishness. All the administration's departments and offices are working day and night to achieve these objectives. The bottom line of these objectives is persistent work to abort the blessed intifadah or our people, their comprehensive intifadah, and also to thwart their solid and impregnable unity. But it remains to be said that these are unachievable objectives and miserable delusions. The U.S. Administration will soon admit how miserable were its wagers and objectives. Our Palestinian victory is inevitable and close at hand.

PLO Radio Discusses European Role in Mideast

JN0507080090 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 0555 GMT 5 Jul 90

["Reading of the Political Situation" feature: "Who Will Protect the European House From a New Fire in the Middle East?"]

[Text] Brothers, probably the most important thing said by Helmut Schaefer, the West German minister of state for foreign affairs, two days ago was the special clarity and definition of his position. Such clarity and definition are usually lacking in EEC member statements, where generalities are usually found that seek to avoid saying anything clear or defining a position on the future of conflict in the Middle East.

Schaefer believes the statement issued recently in Dublin by the West European countries is unacceptable. Schaefer stressed that Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a major obstacle to peace efforts in the region.

This is the position of those who want a solution to the conflict, who want to be partners in the solution, and who do not want a new war to start in the Middle East, a war that will be decisive this time and completely different from all previous wars.

We believe that Schaefer is not alone in this clear understanding. The other partners in European decision-making institutions also understand this. But he, Schaefer, is the only one to declare and define this understanding, while the others have failed to declare it, probably, out of their concern to follow others and not to confront the [word indistinct] like the recent U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO.

We believe that Europe can no longer take such a luxurious position—a neutral and subservient position that only wants to be safe.

Europe can no longer take such a position in view of its interests and role as a major bloc in the world's political map. The start of a new war in the Middle East, on the doorstep of the European house, cannot keep that house safe or away from the fire that will engulf the whole region in view of the type of weapons that will be used in that war. Therefore, the question facing Europe is not whether it should help, or how it can help, to resolve a complicated conflict like that of the Middle East, but how can Europe protect its house from the repercussions of a fire that might break out at any time.

The question is: How can Europe protect itself? How can it protect the future of its unity plan so as to become an effective and a real bloc in international decisionmaking? In the end, this bloc lies in the Mediterranean basin, not in North America.

Fatah Official on New Weapons in Uprising

LD0607013390 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] A member of the Palestinian Fatah movement stated today in Tunis that the PLO is about to revise its strategy in the occupied territories. The Palestinian official said: Facing an Israeli Government which is more extremist than its predecessors, the PLO might allow the use of new weapons by the uprising.

PLO To Convene Central Council 18 Jul

JN0607095290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0915 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Tunis, 6 Jul (INA)—The PLO has decided to convene the PLO Central Council for its new session on 18 July.

In a news release issued here today, a Palestinian source said the PLO Central Council's new session will discuss issues related to current Palestinian developments, including relations with the United States, the suspension of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue, and conditions in the occupied Arab territories. It will also reassess the previous period that followed the declaration of the Palestinian peace initiative proposed by Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat in December 1988.

He said the PLO Central Council's new sessions would follow the Arab League Council meeting of Arab foreign ministers that will convene at the request of the state of Palestine on 16 July.

Hamas Issues Call To Liberate 'Whole Country'

JN0307204490 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 2 Jul 90 p 21

[Text] The Islamic Resistance Movement in Palestine—Hamas, has issued a call on 'Id al-Adha which it describes as the call of unity and mobilization addressed to the brothers in the PLO and other Palestinian organizations. The call states:

In order to open a new chapter of brotherhood, cooperation, and solidarity on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha, Hamas is proud to issue this call for everyone to extend his hand to everyone else. Hamas also asks everyone to extend his hand to pledge to establish complete national unity, which will erase all the ill feelings that were created by the intrigues of the plotters, the unjust campaigns, or the misunderstanding of sincere people. This

is a warm appeal from Hamas to the brothers in the PLO and all the organizations that are fighting alongside Hamas against the fierce enemy. Hamas asks them to reach consensus on the principles of the Palestinian sacrificial project that calls for the liberation of the whole country. Hamas once again declares readiness to coordinate efforts on all levels in line with the spirit of the memorandum it presented to the Palestine National Council to achieve the aim of complete liberation, to which we all aspire.

Hamas said: This is the call for unity and mobilization addressed to all the Arab and Islamic regimes and rulers. They should reconsider their policies and awaken from the deceptive dreams and mirages that go under the slogan of peace and the international balance of power, and return to the spirit and origins of this nation—a spirit that derives from the meaning of this great occasion when the power of mobilization emerges victorious, giving the most glorious examples of readiness and of moving toward the same goal. They are asked to honor the will of their people by severing ties with the arrogant West and breaking all ties of its tutelage, to close ranks with their people, who aspire to realize their glory and dignity through Islam, and to mobilize the great resources of their peoples to wage the battle of honor to confront the fierce war led by the Zionist enemy against this nation's cultural existence—a war sparing no state or people, no matter how far they may be from the battleground.

Intifadah Call No. 59 on 'International Protection'

JN0507190790 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Jul 90

["Text" of Call No. 59 issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah "in the occupied territories"; date not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Call, call, call. No voice transcends the voice of the intifadah; no voice transcends the voice of the people of Palestine—the people of the PLO. Call issued by the PLO—the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] placing the occupied Palestinian territory under provisional international protection. Call No. 59:

Rising masses and makers of freedom and independence. We are now entering the most critical and gravest stages of the intifadah: the stage of decision and clarity, the stage of showing our ferocious Zionist enemy in its true colors of intransigence and racism. Under the present circumstances, it is natural that questions exercise the minds of some concerning the nature of this stage and the advisability of the revolutionary discipline that has marked your legendary intifadah of the masses, as well as the advisability of maintaining the option of peace in the face of an enemy that relentlessly pursues criminality and the oppression of Wadi Qaddum, al-Makabir, Jabaliyah, Rafah, and all villages and camps.

Our valiant masses: Far from leading us to conclude that we are at a dead end as our enemies would like us to think, Israel's extremism, stepped-up repression, and rejection of peaceful plans, only fortify our confidence in our road, in our credibility, and in the strategy of the intifadah. Israel's policies are only an expression of the deepening crisis of the Zionist occupation and Israel's international isolation, and of the mounting global material and moral solidarity with the just cause of our people.

With this white and glorious revolution, your suffering, your blood and sacrifices and pains in the great labor of giving birth to our independent state, you have traveled a long way on the road of attaining your objectives of freedom and independence. The next round with the racist, fascist government, for all its ferociousness and toughness and its attempts to empty the intifadah of its popular content to which we adhere as a sharp weapon, will only lead to the destruction of yet another of the foundations of occupation.

God willing, this round, given the strength of your faith and your resolve and perseverance will get us closer to just peace and the recovery of our usurped rights.

Let us go forward on the road of sacrifice and let the fire of this rising volcano continue to blaze until the troops of occupation are killed in the streets, alleyways, and neighborhoods of our independent Palestinian state, and let all of us beware of fascist practices and discard internal differences and sedition and sabotage and clandestine war against the intifadah, its militants and leaders, and let us fight the advocates of sedition and division wherever they rear their heads.

Valiant heros in caves and detention centers; at mosques and schools; in hospitals and places of work; our generous masses of workers; Palestinian mother who has made the revolutionary and the martyr: The UNLI welcomes the UN secretary general's representative as he pursues his fact-finding mission. At the same time, it sticks to its demand that the UN Security Council dispatch a special delegation to investigate the situation ahead of placing the occupied state under provisional international supervision. The UNLI also appreciates the Western countries' call to afford protection for our defenseless population. The UNLI urges doubling the size of the material assistance provided by this group to the occupied territory with the beginning of 1992. It also calls for the activation of the peace process.

As for the United States' decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO using the flimsy pretext of the seaborne operation and terrorism, the PLO views it as a consecration of the organic link with Israel, which should be in the dock for engaging in the most sophisticated kind of terrorism against our children and elderly in our villages, camps, Nazi-like detention centers, and chambers of torture and interrogation—a state run by the criminals of Dayr Yasin, Kafr Qasim, Sabra and Shatila, and the Gaza Strip, and the culprits presiding over the decimation of Palestinian villages and their removal

from the map, and deporting their population and imposing occupation on those who remain with the nuzzle of the gun.

The UNLI reconfirms the decision to boycott the emissaries and official envoys of the U.S. Administration. It also calls on Palestinian importers to find alternative sources to American goods. It urges them not to place new orders after the current stocks run out, and urges Arab masses across the Arab homeland to take the initiative and set up popular and parliamentary committees to promote the cause of boycotting all American products and see that they are denied entrance to Arab markets following the example of the Palestinian people in the state of Palestine.

In the field, the UNLI, proceeding from a consistent strategy of developing the fabric of the national authority of our independent state, once again urges all our masses to seriously involve themselves in building popular and specialized committees. It also calls on elements of the organizations and strike forces wherever they are to encourage the formation of such popular and broadly-based bodies. It further calls for their coordination and integration into a unified popular front and urges all of them to take the initiative and participate in directing the field work of the intifadah. In this regard and toward the development of the leader cadres, the UNLI announces that it will work toward forming the higher judicial committee and the higher steering committee of the UNLI, in addition to other committees to be announced later.

On the Israeli front, the UNLI calls on political figures to boycott any meeting with ministers and officials of the fascist government. The UNLI reconfirms the need to boycott Israeli goods including vegetables and fruit for which there are substitutes, especially in Jerusalem. The strike forces are to be responsible for enforcing this decision. We caution against marketing Israeli goods marked with Arabic labels, and against laborers working in settlements. The UNLI appreciates the efforts of the Israeli peace forces and calls upon them to intensify their opposition and their exposure of the racist and terrorist practices of the new war cabinet.

On the occasion of the final high school examinations, the UNLI welcomes the initiative of the nationalist bodies in Gaza which have called for adopting sound educational methodology. The UNLI urges the higher student council to form special committees to monitor the progress of the secondary school certificate examinations in the West Bank, and wishes all our students success, emphasizing that the weapon of science constitutes the fundamental groundwork for confronting the enemy and its schemes.

As for local industry and commerce, the UNLI urges the setting up of consumer committees in various areas to verify the good quality of local items and their fair prices. The UNLI will also work to form a special consumer committee to study the taxing system from which our merchants and traders are suffering with a view to making relevant recommendations. In this regard, the UNLI draws attention to the fact that only one day should be set aside for general strikes to mourn the martyrs.

The UNLI further urges the strike forces to form security committees to guard public and private property including the holy places and houses of worship against attacks by thieves and delinquents, and to ensure an atmosphere of security and peace for the people. We draw your attention not to use masks when approaching people except when this proves absolutely necessary. We urge that care be taken not to hurl stones at taxi cabs, ambulance and Red Cross cars and other international agency vehicles. We urge that efforts be concentrated and unified against occupation and that disturbances be eliminated, especially in Hebron. We urge that attacks against observation posts and military patrols be increased and call for more torchings of enemy cars, sabotaging enemy property and disrupting enemy traffic in the land of our occupied state.

The UNLI hails the humanitarian role played by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, and stresses the need to retain the food centers in the occupied homeland and the staff manning them. It also stresses that the groundless statements that have been issued against certain employees must be dropped.

The UNLI salutes brothers in the Popular Struggle Front as it celebrates the anniversary of its founding 23 years ago.

Valiant masses: As the UNLI especially salutes the heroic revolutionaries of the camps, villages, and towns in Gaza, and appreciates their sacrifice and legendary perseverance and their unyielding struggle against occupation; as it warns against the new enemy measures, including the civil guard, tax offensive, village raids, new brigade to counter escalation in Jerusalem, intensified presence of the occupation army on the roads, and rumors spread to break the commercial strike; as it warns against Jewish immigration and draws the attention of the CPSU Central Committee to the existential danger immigration means to the Palestinian people; and as it calls on the Arab nation to implement the summit resolutions supporting the intifadah, it urges our masses to stand up firmly to all Israeli measures including attempts to break the strike. Let us prepare ourselves for a new nationalist stage on the road of freedom and independence. The UNLI calls for the following activities to be observed:

On the 'Id days prayers are to be performed for the souls of the martyrs; massive marches are to be organized to visit the graves of the martyrs. These days are to be observed as days of family solidarity and assistance to the needy.

7 July is to be dedicated to the martyrs of the captive movement. On this occasion, the UNLI salutes all of the detainees and their families, and it appreciates the refusal of the captive movement in the Nazi-like Ansar 3 detention center to submit to extortion and to the conditions set for

family visits. It stresses the need to act consistently toward the civil administration. It calls on the Red Cross to handle the arrangements to visit other prisons. The UNLI calls on human rights committees and local and foreign lawyers to work to defend the inalienable right of the Palestinian prisoner to see his family.

Sunday, 8 July is to be observed as a day of distinguished escalation to mark the anniversay of the martyrdom of the Palestinian writer, thinker, and leader, Ghassan Kanafani.

Monday, 9 July is to be observed in memory of liberated villages. Let Palestinian flags be hoisted, roads barricaded, and massive popular rallies staged to confirm this revolutionary development as a feature of the intifadah.

Friday, 13 July: Marchers are to set off from mosques and Palestinian flags will be unfurled.

The days of the week of 13-20 July are to be observed as days of distinguished escalation when massive demonstrations and confrontations are to be staged against occupation troops.

Friday, 20 July, is to be observed as a day of general strike.

Wednesday, 25 July: All lights are to be turned off from 1900 to 1915 to protest Israeli policy to force illiteracy.

Sunday, 29 July, is to be observed as a day of general strike.

Nota bene: Discipline is to be observed on the day of the secondary school certificate examination. The higher student council is to ensure the smooth progress of the examinations. We are bound to triumph.

PLO Weekly Attacks Islamic Resistance Movement

JN0507185290 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH, the PLO's central weekly magazine, has for the first time launched a fierce attack on the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas. The magazine accuses Hamas of trying to portray itself as an alternative leader of the Palestinian people and of seeking to fragment the unity of national ranks by provoking confessional feuds within Palestinian society and by failing to join the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah. The magazine stresses that the PLO is the state and not a party in the state.

Algeria

Municipal By-Elections Scheduled 19 Jul

LD0407213590 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met today under the chairmanship of Mr. Chadli Bendjedid.

During this meeting, the cabinet discussed a number of draft laws aimed at consolidating the democratic process in the social structures and consolidating the measures to purify and liberate the economy. Then the cabinet ratified these draft laws.

In this context, the cabinet ratified a draft law concerning the associations which is aimed at reforming the associations sector by reforming their law. Then the cabinet ratified a law concerning the social security organizations, which comes within the framework of developing social cohesion.

After discussing these issues, the president addressed the cabinet and stressed the importance of facilitating the procedures for forming associations and societies and making them more flexible. This is to support the tendency to widen the scope of the citizens' participation in public life and consolidate efforts toward national cohesion.

The cabinet also ratified a draft law concerning construction.

In his address on discussing this draft law, the president concentrated on the need to develop styles and practical methods of construction that would make us avoid any uncontrollable growth in the concentration of population. The president also stressed the importance of continuous supervision by the citizens and associations in this field through consultation and participating in decisionmaking.

After that, the cabinet ratified a draft law organizing the attorneys' profession.

Finally, the cabinet listened to a report about the resolutions of the provincial elections committee, which decided the appeals submitted regarding the 12 June 1990 elections. The appeals led to the partial or total cancellation of the [results of] elections in some municipalities. According to the election law, President Chadli Bendjedid issued a decree which he calls the electorate for by-elections on 19 July 1990. [passage omitted]

National Alliance of Independent Democrats Formed

LD0407175590 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] On the political parties front, the birth of the National Alliance of Independent Democrats will be announced officially in Algiers tomorrow. A constituent meeting is expected to adopt tomorrow the party statute and elect the interim leadership of this new political party.

Mr. Mustapha Toumi, the initiator of this alliance, has asked the democrats to pull themselves together, to rally round, and to act in a concerted and organized framework because it constitutes, he added, the majority of this people and therefore their main force.

Activists Stage Hunger Strike Over Confiscations

LD0407172990 Paris International Service in French 1230 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] In Algeria, following the confiscation of the magazine of the movement led by former President Ahmed Ben Bella, four activists of the Movement for Democracy in Algeria [MDA] of former President Ahmed Ben Bella, who is living in exile in Switzerland, had copies of the movement's magazine TRIBUNE D'OCTOBRE and several other publications confiscated. As a result, they decided to stage a hunger strike to protest against this confiscation which they consider illegal. They suspended their strike yesterday in exchange, they say, for a pledge that the publications which had been confiscated would be returned to them. However, after their demand was not met, the four activists, including Mr. Hocine Guermouche, the movement's spokesman, decided to resume their hunger strike until their demands are met.

The police and customs departments in Algiers are for their part using as an excuse an article in the Algerian Code of Information which stipulates that the distribution in Algeria of any foreign publication needs prior authorization. TRIBUNE D'OCTOBRE is indeed published by a French company. Two months ago officials of the Movement for Democracy in Algeria announced that they had reached an agreement with the Algerian Press Distributing Service (ENAMEP) for the distribution of their magazine. As for ENAMEP, it retorted that the distribution of periodicals needed the authorization of the competent administration after a recommendation from the Higher Council of Information. This Council has just been set up.

Egypt

Mubarak Plans 'Intensive' July Agenda

NC0507061390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2021 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jul (MENA)--President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will engage in intensive political activities on domestic and international levels in July to give momentum to various important local, Arab, and African issues.

AL-AHRAM says in its Thursday [5 July] issue that President Mubarak will leave for the Yemeni capital.

Sanaa, on Saturday [7 July] to meet with Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to discuss the latest developments in the Arab arena and the results of Egypt's extensive contacts with various international parties, particularly with the United States, for the activation of the Middle East peace process and resumption of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue.

President Mubarak will leave for the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, on Sunday [8 July] to participate in the African summit conference.

Al-AHRAM says that President Mubarak will return to Cairo on Tuesday [10 July] and that he will meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Cairo at the beginning of the week of 22 July.

President Mubarak will conclude his political activities by delivering a comprehensive political speech to the people on Saturday, 21 July, on the anniversary of the 23 July revolution, in which he will discuss dimensions of the domestic and international situation.

Mubarak To Speak in Ethiopia on African Disputes

PM0307160590 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jun 90 p 4

[Report by Muhammad Isma'il: "Butrus Ghali Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Mubarak Will Review at Addis Ababa Summit Egypt's Efforts To Resolve African Disputes"]

[Excerpts] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Dr. Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, has announced that in his address to the opening meeting of the OAU summit, to be held 9 July in Addis Ababa, President Husni Mubarak will review the role which Egypt has played during its presidency of the OAU in eliminating colonialism in the south of the continent and in settling disputes peacefully between the continent's states.

In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT the Egyptian minister said that President Mubarak will discuss the efforts made by Egypt to solve the economic problems facing the continent, especially the foreign debt problem. He added that former U.S. President Jimmy Carter will deliver a statement at the summit on the efforts made to settle African disputes. [passage omitted]

Dr. Ghali said that such disputes exhaust the states' human and financial resources, thus hampering economic development, which requires the consecration of all resources and energies. They also weaken African solidarity and undermine the foundations of African unity, which constitutes its principal weapon in the battle to extricate its countries from the series of problems from which they are suffering. Dr. Ghali pointed out that Egypt has spared no efforts since the start of the year in working to resolve African disputes, especially the Mauritania-Senegal dispute, through the method of direct meetings between the disputing parties. [passage omitted]

Dr. Ghali expressed Egypt's hope that the two parties will succeed in reaching a formula acceptable to both states at the next meeting in Addis Ababa—a formula that could be regarded as a preliminary agreement toward a peaceful settlement of the dispute.

Dr. Ghali pointed out that Egypt's mediation in the dispute could continue even after President Mubarak's chairmanship of the OAU ends.

Ghali Leaves for OAU Meeting in Addis Ababa

NC0207085290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 2 Jul 90

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jul (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and his accompanying delegation left Cairo for Addis Ababa early this morning to attend the meetings to be held by the foreign ministers of the OAU member states, which are due to open later today in the Ethiopian capital.

In a predeparture statement, Dr. Ghali stated that the conferees will discuss current African issues and preparations for the African summit on Monday [9 July]. He added that President Mubarak will deliver a speech at the opening session of the summit dealing with African issues and Egypt's efforts to settle inter-African differences.

Paper Criticizes Shamir Statements, Bush Stand

NC0107074790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0642 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] Cairo, 1 Jul (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR has emphasized that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's provocative and peace-hampering statements are enough to convince anyone with a shred of intelligence that Israel has no intention of securing genuine peace in the Middle East. In its editorial in today's edition, the paper notes Shamir's method of wasting time and slackening the line, as evidenced by his non-acceptance or open rejection of the American peace proposals, in order to keep the issue flapping in the wind.

The paper expresses astonishment at U.S. President George Bush's stand and attempt to evade publicly declaring his view before the American people and world public opinion regarding Yitzhaq Shamir's response on his government's position on the Middle East peace efforts. The paper says the U.S. President's claim that he does not know the contents of Shamir's message is something that not even a naive person with no knowledge of politics would believe. It is inconceiveable that whoever received the message did not report its contents to the head of state immediately, the paper adds.

Paper Berates U.S. Halt to PLO Dialogue

NC3006124190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0628 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 30 Jun (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has denounced the U.S. attitude in suspending the dialogue

with the PLO. It says that whatever justifications and excuses the United States has given for severing the dialogue with the PLO, it will not dispel the Arab citizens' feeling of intense deception.

In an editorial today headlined "Shameful Excuse," AL-AHRAM says that the U.S. Administration had anticipated the ill effect that its decision would have on the Arabs, particularly the moderates. Nevertheless, the United States did nothing to balance this effect and surprised them with this abominable decision without advance notification. The United States did this at a time when attempts were continuing to persuade it to abstain from carrying out its threat.

AL-AHRAM states that the United States continues to maintain that it cannot "force" the parties involved in the problem to reach a settlement, or "force" Israel to negotiate with the PLO. But why does it single out the PLO for compulsion just because it did not give in to U.S. demands on a secondary issue to condemn the abortive landing operation on a Tel Aviv beach and expel Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] front from its membership?

AL-AHRAM points out that if the severance of the dialogue with the PLO is not compulsion or an attempt to do so, why does the U.S. Administration not make at least "a similar innocent step" with the Israeli side because, for a long time, Israel has not responded to the U.S. demands represented in James Baker's plan, and even discredited and rejected all peace overtures.

Concluding its editorial, AL-AHRAM says that if the PLO committed a crime in not giving in to the humiliating U.S. demands, Israel has persisted in committing thousands of crimes, refusing to give in to international honest and humane demands that it stop its massacres in the West Bank and Gaza. The United States is doing no more than occasionally and reluctantly denouncing these massacres, and when the time for serious action comes, the United States prevents any measure being taken on these crimes at the Security Council.

Mubarak Sends Condolences to King Fahd

NC0407180190 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1648 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Cairo, 4 Jul (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable of condolences to King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, the guardian of the two holy mosques, over the pilgrims who were martyred in the al-Mu'aysin tunnel incident:

I have learned with extreme sorrow of the news of the terrible al-Mu'aysim tunnel incident in which many pilgrims died. While offering you my most sincere condolences and solace, I implore Almighty God to bestow his mercy on the martyrs, to have them live in paradise, and to protect you and your fraternal people from every evil.

1989 Export Revenues Total 13.18 Billion Pounds

JN0407174290 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Jul 90 p 1

[Excerpts] Earnings from Egyptian exports last year, the third year in the second five-year development plan, totaled 13.18 billion pounds, registering a 42.3-percent increase in revenues from industrial exports, a 13.8-percent increase in revenues from agricultural exports, and a 24.1-percent increase in oil revenues, thanks to growth in the amounts of some exported commodities and also to the export of new commodities. [passage omitted]

Service exports came first, as they totaled 8.42 billion pounds. Industrial exports amounted to approximately 2.775 billion pounds and came second, while exports of petroleum and its by-products totaled almost 1.212 billion pounds. As for revenues from agricultural exports, they amounted to approximately 763 million pounds.

Service exports registered an average growth rate of approximately 34.9 percent, while the increase in service imports has not exceeded 17 percent, thus allowing for a growing surplus in the service balance over the past three years totaling nearly 3 billion pounds, which made up for some of the deficit in the trade balance.

As for industrial exports, they registered an annual growth rate of 42.2 percent as a result of improved prices for some exported commodities and also of an increase in some of the significant commodity exports. [passage omitted]

Libya

Al-Talhi Blames Chad for Accord Failure

PM0407142790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Jul 90 p 4

[Report on interview with Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation, by Munsif al-Salimi in Rabat—date not given]

[Text] Libyan foreign minister Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi has accused the Chadian Government of being responsible for failing to implement the agreement concluded between Chad and Libya in Algiers. The secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau for External Liaison and International Cooperation told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in an exclusive statement in Rabat "regrettably, we feel that our brothers in Chad do not honor many of their international commitments, especially the Geneva Conventions on POW's, although Libya is committed to the settlement."

On Libya's position on the Arab Maghreb Union [UMA] and the merger charter with Sudan, the Libyan official pointed out: We are not opposed to that. In fact the Marrakech treaty included a legal license in that connection.

On his assessment of the UMA's development, al-Talhi pointed out that the union was launched in response to a people's will which imposed itself, which is why he has

no fear about the union's continuation, whatever the internal developments in the Arab Maghreb countries.

With regard to the economic merger charter between Libya and Sudan, al-Talhi said that the charter signed by the two countries concerns economic integration according to specific aims and during a specific period of time. The charter contains the organs and the practical measures to implement anything to be agreed, including the establishment of a general secretariat.

It is known that the objective of such plans, as in the case of the Marrakech and other treaties, is to speed up unity. Therefore the next step depends on the results achieved toward the ultimate aim.

On the nature of the two sides' interests in the stage ahead within the charter plan framework, the Libyan official said: "Attention is focused on that integration and the economic connection between the two countries."

On Libya's reconciliation between its merger with Sudan and its commitments toward the UMA, al-Talhi pointed out that "the legal aspect of the question under the Marrakech treaty does not prevent any state from signing an agreement or a treaty with any other party. In fact the treaty stipulated this clearly, granting the member states this right.

"That does not mean that that agreement should conflict in practice with the Marrakech treaty, because we observe it fully, as do the other members. We are totally committed not only to the Marrakech treaty's stipulations, but also to its spirit and the final objective of signing it. And we can only give precedence to its obligations over other obligations. With regard to the legal aspect, what was done in Sudan does not conflict with it. As for the application aspect, it certainly requires coordination. And, as I said, we can only move within the framework of our Maghreb commitments. And matters can organized this way. And so long as the legal license is there, we can do anything that is not banned by the Marrakech treaty and does not conflict with its aims. And the implementation will be carried out within that framework. And I believe that there will be fruitful cooperation."

On Sudan's request to join the union, the Libyan official said: "I personally have no information about any Sudanese request in that connection. And it is known that the admission of any new party to any multiparty treaty requires that the party itself expresses its wish openly." Al-Talhi emphasized that the Sudanese Government did not seek any Libyan endeavor to help it to gain official admission to the union.

Asked by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT for his assessment of the status of relations between Libya and Chad in the years after the Algiers agreement, al-Talhi said: "With regard to the situation on the borders, it is completely normal. Since the 1987 incidents and the OAU's endeavors in that regard, the cease-fire—if such a phrase can be used—is completely stable. As for work to settle the matters raised, we have been committed to working in accordance with what was mentioned in leader al-Qadhdhafi's initiative on the 25th anniversary of the OAU's establishment. And much progress and many developments have taken place since the restoration of relations between the two countries, the exchange of diplomatic missions, the signing of the framework agreement, and the formation of the two countries' joint committee, which held many meetings.

"And I regret to to say that, despite the clarity of the Algiers agreement, we have not made much progress with regard to its implementation. And we objectively and impartially believe that we are not responsible for this. It is our Chadian brothers who are responsible for failing to implement it until now.

"Agreements, especially framework agreements, require a clear political will to implement it. They also require absolute commitment to international law and international conventions. But, regrettably, we feel that the brothers in Chad do not honor many of their international commitments, especially the Geneva Conventions on POW's. The Chadian authorities still completely reject the Geneva Conventions with regard to facilitating international organizations' tasks. The International Red Cross Committee issued a memorandum, distributed to many states, criticizing Chad's behavior and its failure to enable the Red Cross to play its role in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

"What is more, these conventions stipulate clearly that, once a cease-fire is announced, the parties concerned are obliged to release the POW's and return them to their countries.

"Regrettably, the Chadians refuse to adhere to these conventions. We also feel that they are not working to create a suitable atmosphere for implementation. This is demonstrated by their repeated statements in which they always try to level accusations at Libya which everyone knows are baseless."

On what is being said by the Chadian authorities on the "Islamic legion" question, al-Talhi said: "With regard to this matter, we have asked the OAU many times to send a team to investigate these allegations and ascertain the truth. Everyone knows that what is happening on the Chadian-Sudanese borders is an inter-Chadian conflict. The Chadian authorities recently obstructed a Libyan convoy of civilian vehicles on the road between Libya and Sudan. This took place inside Sudanese territory, 400 km from the Chad border—which is, of course, is a very serious action. And all the parties involved know that what the Chadians said in that connection is untrue. Regrettably such attitudes do not help to advance the implementation of the framework agreement signed by the two countries." He emphasized Libya's commitment to the peaceful settlement and its eagerness to settle these matters politically in the interests of both peoples. The proof of this is that it has released all POW's in fulfillment of international commitments, including the

Geneva Conventions. And it has returned all the Chadian POW's at its own expense and under OAU and Red Cross supervision.

In his assessment of the UMA's development since its establishment, al-Talhi said: "What has been achieved with regard to the implementation of the Marrakech treaty is very satisfactory. And although it is a short period of time, the achievements made through hard work reflect the political will of all its parties—that is, to make the Maghreb plan a success. Suffice it to say that all the institutions have been reinforced and have now started their work. And when it was discovered that the institutions required some changes to increase their effectiveness, the changes were agreed and endorsed by the leaders. The matter concerned the establishment of a permanent general secretariat, once we discovered there was a need for it, and a need to find a permanent headquarters for it. That was agreed and endorsed. The same thing happened with regard to the shura council, as it was discovered that the its membership was not large enough to carry out the work needed, so it was expanded and the treaty was amended.

'Furthermore, all the organs, including the ministerial committees and councils, are now operating regularly. They have completed many legal frameworks in the form of agreements. The presidential council meeting to be held in Algiers in this month of July will approve many of the results of the committees' work, and everyone will see what great efforts have been exerted and how much work has been done.'

Asked by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT about the effect of internal developments in the Arab Maghreb countries on the development of the UMA, the Libyan minister said: "Theoretically and generally, any internal development inside any country can affect that country's commitments. This is true. But with regard to the Arab Maghreb I do not believe it is so. This is because the Arab Maghreb plan is not new. In fact the dealings have existed since the liberation movements and the struggle for independence. The Arab Maghreb idea and its realization were the aim of those who sacrificed their lives for the sake of our countries' independence and liberation.

"The idea was then strengthened more and more in view of the international move toward groupings. Thus any political developments in our countries can have no effect, because the belief in the Arab Maghreb idea extends to include all groups and citizens in the Arab Maghreb region. And it is natural for developments to take place in every country. And the state is a living entity which must experience developments. I do not believe that this will adversely affect the Union's development... because the UMA is the result of a people's will which has imposed itself. And I do not believe that anyone will work against that orientation."

Asked about Libya's real orientation with regard to its commitments toward Egypt, Sudan, and the Arab Maghreb countries, al-Talhi stressed that he "cannot imagine that there is a country in the world which deals with one country only or vice versa, especially when the matter concern neighbors and a state like ours. I do not believe that strengthening our relations with any country within any legal or contractual framework would necessarily be at the expense of relations with another country or another group. What is important is for every country to fulfill its international commitments within the framework of honoring its commitments and the charters which it signs."

'Id al-Adha Curtailed to Mark Earthquake

LD0207205790

[Editorial Report] Tripoli Television Service in Arabic at 1930 GMT on 2 July broadcasts a two-minute announcement noting that in view of the "enormous loss of lives suffered by the Muslim Iranian people" in the recent earthquake, it has been decided that the 'Id al-Adha holiday this year will be confined to 1-2 July, with 3 July remaining a normal working day.

Sudan

Staff Chief Returns, Calls PRC Visit 'Fruitful'

EA0507104690 Khartoum SUNA in French 1510 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Khartoum, 4 July (SUNA)—The chief of staff, Ishaq Ibrahim 'Umar, and his delegation yesterday, Tuesday, returned to Khartoum from the People's Republic of China. The chief of staff said in a press statement that his visit to China was fruitful and had consolidated the ties between the two countries.

Al-Bashir Meets With Uganda's Museveni 29 Jun

EA3006190590 Khartoum SUNA in English 0914 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, 30 June (SUNA)—The chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], Gen. 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, and the visiting Ugandan president, Yoweri Museveni, held a closed door meeting at the Friendship Hall yesterday.

Meanwhile, the RCC chairman gave a banquet in the honour of the Ugandan head of state attended by a number of RCC members and some African and Arab ambassadors in Khartoum.

Museveni arrived here yesterday to attend the celebrations marking the first anniversary of the National Salvation Revolution.

Government Convoy to Yei Destroyed

EA3006210790 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Excerpts] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of the Bright Star campaign, Phase 3, completely

destroyed a large enemy convoy advancing from Maridi [western Equatoria, about 150 miles west of Juba] between (Mekki) and (Ras Wulu) on 26 June 1990 at 1700 Sudan local time. The enemy was making a futile attempt to rescue Yei from Maridi.

The battle lasted for one hour at which the enemy suffered heavy casualties in both men and materials. Twenty-eight dead enemy bodies were found on the battlefield. Many were wounded, the remnants scattered in the bushes fleeing towards (Mekki). [passage omitted]

In a related development, our forces repulsed back another enemy advancing from (Ras Wulu) to reinforce the above convoy, killing and wounding several soldiers from the enemy, and the rest scattered in disarray running back to (Ras Wulu). The Bright Star campaign, Phase 3, commander warned that any similar attempt from Maridi or Yei will be crushed.

The chairman and commander in chief passes thousands of congratulations to the commanders, officers, NCO's and men of bright star campaign, phase three, for this great victory, teaching 'Umar al-Bashir another big lesson on the first anniversary of his repugnant junta. The struggle continues and victory to the Sudanese people is certain.

'Hundreds of Thousands' Call for Islamic Law

AB3006192590 Paris AFP in English 1842 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, June 30 (AFP)—Hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated here Saturday [30 June] demanding the implementation of Islamic law, a year after General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir seized power in Sudan from an elected government. Demonstrators mobilized by the junta and said by authorities to number between 750,000 and one million marched through the capital Khartoum for more than three hours chanting "Sharia, Sharia now!" and "Sharia or martyrdom!" A military parade featuring soldiers, police and members of militia created by the regime to support the army trooped through the city.

Speaking to the nation on radio, Gen al-Bashir, without referring specifically to the question of Sharia, said the junta's second year in power will "see the application of a federal system." The proposal for a federal system was put forward last October during a national conference as a solution to the problems of the war-torn country, but has been rejected by the southern-based rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), who also reject Sharia law. Under the proposed federal system, Sharia and custom would be the basis for legislation, with each regional body empowered to decide not to apply legislation having a purely religious character.

Gen. al-Bashir made no mention of a Sudan-Libya charter of economic integration scheduled to be signed during the first anniversary festivities, according to a report last week in Egypt's AL-AHRAM newspaper, quoting the Sudanese minister for irrigation, Ya'qub 'Abu-Shurah Musa. The "Integration Charter", accepted in principle at a summit between Gen. al-Bashir and Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on March 1, calls for economic cooperation followed by "complete fusion" of the two countries within four years.

But Gen. al-Bashir announced another national conference in August to create a political organization which "will assure the participation of the people" in government "represent all constituencies". Referring to "people's committees" created by the junta on the Libya model to replace political parties banned after the June 1989 coup, Gen. al-Bashir said they "illustrate the democratic character of revolution."

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak sent a message of congratulations for the anniversary expressing Cairo's desire to strengthen the "brotherly rapport uniting the two peoples of the Nile Valley."

Darfur Region Supervisor Cites Successes

EA2906203390 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 29 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, 29 June (SUNA)—Command Council member and supervisor of Darfur Region, General Tijani Adam al-Tahir has asserted that the revolution since its advent has been able to contain the situation in Darfur Region including the armed robbery, tribal conflicts and the borders problems. Gen. Tahir told the Armed Forces daily AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH Friday [29 June] that the efforts of the revolution have resulted in the deepening of brotherly ties between the various tribes, shrinking armed robbery and improving situation there. He told the paper that efforts would continue totally uproot the armed robbery in the region of Darfur in western Sudan.

Gen. Tahir said the government, through diplomatic efforts, was able to get the Chadian forces out of the country in accordance with Sudan's declared foreign policy. Gen. Tahir has reaffirmed Sudan's keeness for the stability of the situation in Chad, Sudan's western neighbour.

Tunisia

Ben Ali Receives Message on Maghreb Summit

LD0407205890 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] The head of state received a message from President Chadli Bendjedid. It was delivered to him this morning by Mr. Sid Ahmed Ghazali, the foreign minister in the Algerian government and special envoy of President Bendjedid to the head of state.

The Algerian envoy has stated that the message is related to the relations between the two countries, the joint efforts within the framework of the Arab Maghreb

Union, and is also connected with the forthcoming Maghreban summit scheduled for 21-23 July in Algiers.

PLO's Yasir 'Arafat Meets President Ben Ali

LD0107002990 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali met yesterday evening [30 June] at the presidential palace in Carthage Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat.

Following the meeting, President Yasir 'Arafat stated that he was happy to meet the president and to congratulate him, in his own name and on behalf of the Palestinian people and the women and children of the Intifadah, on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha, and through him the Tunisian people.

Abu-'Ammar ['Arafat] said that he briefed the president about the current developments in the occupied territories, and especially after the formation of the Israeli Government, which he decribed as a war government. He added: Whoever is following the threats of the Israeli deputy chief of staff against Iraq, Libya, Jordan, and even against Egypt, and the formation of armed militia from the settlers, would be certain that the Palestinian people are facing two military authorities and more oppression, massacres, and crimes. He said that these questions will be followed up at the Arab League Council meeting scheduled for 16 July, and also within the framework of the United Nations after the conclusion of the fact-finding mission of the U.N. assistant general secretary in the occupied territories.

Mr. Yasir 'Arafat also said that he reviewed with the head of state other developments in Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas, and that it was agreed to continue consultations to push forward the Palestinian question and Arab solidarity.

'Mujahidin' Jailed for Religious Activities

NC0207184290 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Jul 90

[Text] A Tunisian court has sentenced 15 Tunisian mujahidin to imprisonment for periods ranging between five months and one year on charges of engaging in religious activities. According to a report from our correspondent in Paris, the Tunisian security forces arrested the people in question as they left a mosque in the Khaldoun suburb of Tunis, claiming that they were using mosques as a base for political activities.

It is worth noting that following the recent revival of Islamic values among Tunisian youth, and particularly following the victory of Islamists in the Algerian elections, the Tunisian Government has taken new measures against Islamists in Tunisia. As part of these measures, the Tunisian authorities have suspended the publication of AL-NAHDAH, a mouthpiece of the Islamic movement, and taken legal action against its director.

Indian Premier's Special Envoy Arrives

BK2306031390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Jun 90

[Text] The home minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, arrived in Tunis yesterday as Prime Minister Mr. V.P. Singh's special envoy. The home minister is scheduled to call on the Tunisian president, Mr. Zine El Abidine, today and deliver to him a letter from the prime minister. The mufti is on a 12-day tour to apprise the Muslim nations of the Mediterranean region of the recent developments in India-Pakistan relations.

Bahrain

Eritrean-Ethiopian Talks To Resume 22 Jul

JN0107193690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0815 GMT 1 July 90

[Text] Doha, 1 July (WAKH)—Muhammad 'Uthman Abu-Bakr, member of the Executive Committee and head of the Foreign Relations Bureau of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Unified Organization, has said that preliminary negotiations between the Eritrean and Ethiopian sides will resume on 22 July in Sanaa under UN supervision.

In a statement to WAKH, Abu-Bakr added that Ethiopia's approval of UN supervision reaffirms its sincere desire to end the bloody struggle in Eritrea, which will in turn bring stability and security to the Horn of Africa.

Abu-Bakr added that the Executive Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Unified Organization concluded its continuous meetings last night in the heart of liberated Eritrean land. It decided to form a dialogue committee to continue negotiations on unifying the four Eritrean factions.

Abu-Bakr said the worsening situation in the occupied Eritrean land, especially in the capital Asmera, following the seizure of the Port of Mits'iwa by Eritrean revolutionaries and the prevention of international humanitarian aid from reaching northern Ethiopia and Eritrea, which threatens more than 700,000 citizens with starvation and death, have forced large numbers of civilians to take refuge in rural areas, liberated cities, and in Sudan.

Foreign Minister Leaves for PRC 2 Jul

JN0207194490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1834 GMT 2 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Manama, 2 Jul (WAKH)—Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah left Manama this evening for the PRC on an official visit of several days.

The foreign minister said he will convey during the visit a written message from His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, to the PRC president, on boosting and enhancing bilateral relations in every field.

In a statement to WAKH, the foreign minister said his visit to Beijing is in keeping with the State of Bahrain's desire to promote relations with the PRC in the service of the two friendly peoples.

He added that his visit will enable him to hold talks with PRC officials on developing cooperation and forging a joint formula to take advantage of areas of cooperation that yield economic returns to the State of Bahrain and the PRC. He also said that during the visit, the State of Bahrain and the PRC would sign their first agreement on economic, technical, and trade cooperation.

The Bahriani foreign minister expressed hope, moreover, that this step would consolidate the basis of cooperation between the two countries to include all vital areas in development and economy.

The Bahraini foreign minister said his talks with the officials in Beijing would also cover regional and world issues in light of new international developments, especially in relation to peace in the Middle East and the Gulf region. He commended the PRC's positive stance and pioneering role in support of Arab causes.

He also expressed the hope that these mutual visits would continue in order to establish permanent links through which wider horizons for cooperation and strong bilateral relations built on trust and mutual interests could be established. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

USSR's Polyakov on Arab, Israeli Conflict

LD0507155190 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] A senior Soviet official has lauded the prominent role played by his highness the amir of Kuwait, not only for the stability of the Middle East region alone, but also for that of the Islamic world as a whole. The official, the director of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Vladimir Polyakov, said in an interview with Kuwaiti television that the political dialogue between his highness the amir and President Gorbachev of the Soviet Union is continuing.

At this time of perestroyka and the new policy in the Soviet Union, he said conditions have become favorable for promoting relations between Kuwait and the Soviet Union in all domains.

The official stressed that the Middle East region is still the subject of great interest to the Soviet Union, and that the Soviet Union is seeking to strengthen its relations with the Arab world and the peoples of the Middle East region given that this region is a neighboring region of the USSR, and that the region has common roots with it. [sentence as heard]

Polyakov further said that the Soviet Union is trying to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict as speedily as possible, reaffirming Moscow's support for the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people. The Soviet official pointed out that the Soviet Union is endeavoring to secure concord with all the states of the world, and not just the United States, and that the Soviet Union is still calling for a settlement to be attained as soon as possible for the Palestinian question, given that it constitutes the essential problem of the region.

He emphasized that the convening of an international conference on the Middle East, with the participation of all concerned parties and the UN Security Council permanent member states, is the best framework for

arriving at a solution to this problem. He stressed that the Soviet Union has no desire whatsoever for confrontation with the United States in any part of the world, including the Middle East.

Concerning the settlement of Soviet Jews in the Arab occupied territories, he said: The Soviet Union opposes their settling in the occupied territories, and the position of the Soviet Union on this matter is a matter of principle.

Oman

Sultan Qabus Sends Condolences to King Fahd

JN0507120490 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1015 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Muscat, 5 Jul (WAKH)—His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman has sent a cable of condolences and sympathy to Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, on the tragic al-Mu'aysim tunnel accident in Mecca, which resulted in the death of hundreds of pilgrims. [passage omitted]

The sultan expressed in his name and the name of the Omani people sympathy toward the families of the martyrs and prayed that God would grant the custodian of the two holy mosques success in efforts to serve Muslims and Islam.

Saudi Arabia

Turkish Minister Visits for Victim Identification

TA0607073190 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 0430 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Excerpt] State Minister Cemil Cicek has asked Saudi Arabian authorities to accelerate the procedures for the identification of the Turkish victims who died during the hajj in Mecca. Cicek, who went to Saudi Arabia to hold contacts in connection with this matter, was received by Saudi State Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud at Jeddah airport. According to the ANATOLIA NEWS AGENCY, Cicek told the Saudi minister that the delay in identifying the dead Turkish hajjis is exacerbating the distress of the Turkish public.

The fact that public offices are closed in Saudi Arabia because of the religious holiday is reportedly the major cause of the delay in the identification procedures. Of the Turks who were killed during a stampede in a tunnel near Mecca, 163 have been identified. Saudi officials announced that 284 people, who were identified as Turks according to the crescent-and-star emblem on their clothing, have been buried. [passage omitted]

United Arab Emirates

President Receives Telephone Call From Bhutto

JN0407141790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1230 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 4 Jul (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], today received a telephone call from Pakistani Prime Minister Mrs. Benazir Bhutto.

During the telephone conversation, they reviewed bilateral ties and issues of common interest.

Yemen Arab Republic

Salih, 'Arafat Discuss Revolutions, Struggle

JN0507133790 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, this afternoon received at the Republican Palace in Ta'izz struggler brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

They discussed the relations of struggle between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions, and developments in the Palestinian people's intifadah in light of the escalation of the brutal campaign of oppression and terrorism carried out by the racist authorities of the Zionist entity against our Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories.

The meeting was attended by brother Dr. Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister; brother Yahya Rabah, ambassador of the State of Palestine in Sanaa; and Colonel Bu-Humayd, commander of the (Sabra') camp.

Al-Bid Receives Waldegrave After London Surgery

JN0407180990 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, vice chairman of the Presidential Council, received William Waldegrave, minister of state at the British Foreign Office, last night in London.

Waldegrave conveyed British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's greetings and congratulations on the successful surgical operation he recently underwent in London. The British minister also conveyed the greetings and good wishes of Douglas Hurd, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and his congratulations on the success of the surgery.

Mauritanian Minister Delivers Message for Salih

JN0307133690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] Presidential Council member brother 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani this morning received Ceikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, Mauritanian minister of interior, post, and telecommunications, who is currently visiting our country. During this meeting, the Mauritanian minister conveyed a message to brother 'Abd-al-Ghani for brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, from his brother Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya.

The message offers congratulations on the establishment of the Republic of Yemen, and deals with the brotherly and close relations between the two fraternal countries, as well as issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by brother Colonel Ghalib Mutahhar al-Qamsh, minister of interior and security.

Officials Say No Iraqi Prisoners Hurt in Quake

JN0507200190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Ankara, 5 Jul (INA)—The head of the Iraqi Red Crescent Society delegation to Iran has reported that none of the Iraqi prisoners in Iran has sustained injuries as a result of the earthquake that recently hit Iran.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Ankara yesterday, two days after returning from Tehran where he and his delegation supervised the delivery of Iraqi aid to the victims of the earthquake, the head of the society said that the official Iranian authorities had reported that there were no victims among the Iraqi prisoners as a result of the earthquake.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Society delegation had arrived in Tehran two days earlier with foodstuffs, clothing, and tents, which were distributed among the victims of the earthquake that hit northwest Iran and claimed the lives of 50,000 Iranians and left thousands more injured.

Perez de Cuellar Remarks on Iraq, Iran, Mideast

JN0507153490 Baghdad INA in Arab 1445 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Excerpt] Geneva, 5 Jul (INA)—UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has described the direct talks between the Iraqi and Iranian foreign ministers in Geneva last Tuesday [3 July] as an important step toward solving all problems between the two countries.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said in a press conference here today that developments in the Iran-Iraq situation this week have brought about a tangible relaxation and the chances for peace between the two countries are now greater than ever before.

Replying to a question from INA about the possibility of placing the occupied Arab territories under international supervision to stop the Zionist occupation authorities' violations of the Palestinians' human rights, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that this matter has been discussed in detail and that any decision concerning this issue should be made in coordination with the UN Security Council.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar added that events in the Middle East have proven that it is not possible to establish just and permanent peace in the region without implementing the recommendation of the UN General Assembly to convene an international Middle East peace conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict.

He said that the international community must come closer to the Middle East cause because it is one of the most important problems the world is facing today. [passage omitted]

Briefed on Iraqi Envoy Meeting

JN0607131890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Geneva, 6 Jul (INA)—UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar met here today with Jan Eliasson, his personal representative to the Iraqi-Iranian negotiations.

In statements to journalists here today, Mrs. Nadiya Yunus, spokeswoman for the UN secretary general, said that the UN secretary general received an oral report on the results of the talks Mr. Eliasson held here with Iraqi and Iranian delegations at the ambassadorial level during the past two days. [passage omitted]

Eliasson met here today with the Iraqi delegation led by Barzan al-Tikriti, Iraq's permanent representative to the UN's European headquarters in Geneva. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari, Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, and Ambassador Riyad al-Qaysi [name as received], attended the meeting. [passage omitted]

Saddam Visits Governorates, Discusses Water

Hears of Irrigation Problems

JN0407202790 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Leader President Saddam Husayn this morning visited al-Qadisiyah Governorate. His excellency met with Comrade Muslim Hadi, secretary of the al-Qadisiyah branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and the al-Qadisiyah mayor. [passage omitted]

His excellency then visited al-Muthanna Governorate and met with Governor Ibrahim Muhammad Hasan. [passage omitted] The governor raised some difficulties related to the irrigation of agricultural lands in light of the amount of water received by the governorate. The leader president gave instructions and said that irrigation timetables and plans needed to be adopted due to the present situation of water outlets. [passage omitted]

Stresses Economy

JN0407210390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1445 GMT 4 Jul 90

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 4 Jul (WAKH)—Iraq intends to pursue a stringent austerity policy regarding the use of its water resources to face the continued decrease in the flow of the Euphrates waters from Turkey via Syrian territory.

In a conversation with officials in the Governorates of al-Qadisiyah and al-Muthanna yesterday and broadcast by the Iraqi news media several times, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn stressed the need to make the use of water proportionate to the amount of water Iraq is receiving and not the way water has been used over the past 20 years.

The announcement of these plans came a few days after the failure of the last round of talks held at the end of last month by the Syrian, Iraqi, and Turkish irrigation ministers in the Turkish capital city of Ankara. The talks failed to produce results.

Studies conducted here show that some 5.5 million Iraqi peasants residing near the Euphrates and a similar number of Syrian peasants might be negatively affected by this situation. The studies also show that considerable economic damage will be caused to industrial projects which depend on the Euphrates waters.

The Iraqi president said water use needed to be rationed, especially in farms. He added: In all circumstances, we must know how to economize in the use of the water that we receive from the Euphrates and to make this use contingent upon real needs that will serve Iraqi interests and not upon the wishes of individual citizens.

Iraq had asked Turkey to increase the amount of water released to 700 cubic meters per second instead of 500 meters per second, which is the case right now, so that it could face the water shortage. However, Turkey rejected the proposal, as reported by the media.

It is well known that the Euphrates crisis emerged when Turkey cut off the flow of the Euphrates on 13 January for 30 days to fill the new Ataturk dam, thus causing damage to Iraqi and Syrian farms, as Iraqi officials said at the time.

President Saddam Husayn noted that the three countries are still in touch on the water issue. However, he did not express any hope that the problem would be resolved soon. He added: We expect a water shortage not only this year, but also in all coming years. Shortages are expected to worsen.

The discussion of the issue in this manner in these two governorates visited yesterday by President Saddam Husayn shows the importance that water has in the lives of farmers who have been using large amounts to irrigate their rice crops for years.

Iraqi Agriculture and Irrigation Minister 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud held Turkey responsible for the failure of the recent trilateral meeting, saying in statements published here that the failure to reach an agreement was caused by Turkey, which insisted on repeating the same proposal it had made earlier. According to Minister Mahmud, this proposal was not in line with international norms and laws.

The minister stated that the purpose behind it was to prolong negotiations, to procrastinate and prevaricate, to waste time, and to bring up issues that had nothing to do with the major one.

It is worth noting that in talks with Turkish Prime Minister Akbulut in Baghdad at the end of April, Iraq linked all bilateral cooperation agreements to the Euphrates water issue.

At the time, Iraqi officials refused to sign the renewal of the bilateral security agreement. They also made joint trade and industrial enterprises contingent upon a resolution of the distribution of the Euphrates waters among the three states in accordance with international laws as well as the needs of each country.

In conversation with the minister of agriculture and irrigation, President Saddam Husayn instructed the latter to reconsider his ministry's land reclamation programs in view of the water shortage expected during the coming years. He added that these projects, which cost the state large amounts of money—200 million dinars, or $640 million—would be wasted in the absence of long-term prospects for their proper operation if it were found that there was no water to meets their requirements.

President Saddam Husayn ruled out the possibility of an increased water flow in the near future. He added: In light of the plan drawn up by Turkey, and because Iraq is third to receive the Euphrates waters, we do not expect more water than that which we now receive. He stressed that every Iraqi citizen had to be told that the water he had received in the past could not be maintained at the present rate. Furthermore, he added that every Iraqi citizen had to improve the irrigation methods he used and also the ways to release and conserve water.

'Sources' Say Pluralism Law Nearing Completion

PM0407134790 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jul 90 pp 1-4

[Zaki Shihab report: "Authoritative Iraqi Sources Tell AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Final Stage in Preparing Party Pluralism and Freedom of Press Laws Has Started"]

[Excerpts] London, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Informed Iraqi sources have announced that the Iraqi leadership has started the final stages of discussing the constitution and and the new laws which will open the door to party pluralism and party activities and allow private individuals to publish daily and weekly publications.

The sources pointed out in a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that President Saddam Husayn has been busy for nearly a month participating in the meetings, which are held twice weekly. [passage omitted]

Furthermore, the sources said that Iraq is ready to extend a supporting hand to Iran to help it alleviate Iranian citizens' suffering as a result of the earthquakes which hit the northwestern areas last week.

The sources told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn proceeds in that direction from the conviction that such a step, whatever its size, is a positive gesture toward Iran and the Iranian people.

The sources added that the last communication between the two countries was an Iranian message to Baghdad supporting the convening of a summit between President

Saddam Husayn and Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani to be seriously prepared via meetings between the two countries' advisers.

The sources confirmed that no meetings have yet been held between the advisers, although some media reports spoke of meetings in more than one foreign capital.

Earlier Date Requested for Tunis Meeting

JN0607151290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Tunis, 6 Jul (INA)—Iraq has officially asked the Arab League General Secretariat to hold the Tunis meeting of Arab foreign ministers on 15 July, instead of 16 July. In a statement to an INA correspondent in Tunis today, Hamid 'Alwan al-Juburi, Iraq's permanent representative to the Arab League, said that Iraq had presented an official memorandum to the Arab League General Secretariat informing Arab countries that Iraq would like to have the foreign ministers' meeting one day earlier so that it could participate effectively at the required rank in discussing Middle East developments.

The state of Palestine called for an emergency meeting of the Arab League Council at the foreign ministers level on 16 July in Tunis to discuss political developments in the region.

Mauritanian Minister Arrives With Taya Message

Received by Saddam

JN0107124390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn this morning received Mauritanian Interior Minister Cheickh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba who conveyed an oral message to his excellency from Mauritanian President Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya dealing with the strong relations between the two sisterly countries and current issues of mutual importance. The Mauriatian minister conveyed to his excellency the greetings of his brother Col. Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president and chairman of the National Salvation Front, and his wishes of good health to the president and continuous progress and prosperity for the Iraqi people.

President Saddam Husayn asked Cheickh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba to convey his greetings and wishes of good health and happiness to his brother the Mauritanian president and continuous prosperity for the Mauritanian people. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Samir Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahhab and the Mauritanian charge d'affaires in Baghdad.

Delivers Message, Departs

JN0207052990 Baghdad INA in English 1010 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] Baghdad, July 1, INA—Personal Envoy to President Saddam Husayn from Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya Mr. Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba, interior minister left Baghdad last night.

During the visit, the Mauritanian minister conveyed a message to President Husayn from President Taya on bilateral relations and means of boosting them in different fields.

Trade Unions Head Meets Vietnamese Counterpart

JN0207053290 Baghdad INA in English 0959 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] Baghdad, July 1, INA—Mr. Fadil Mahmud Gharib, chairman of the General Federation of Iraqi Trade Unions met here last night the vice chairman of Vietnam Trade Unions and member of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist party and her accompanying delegation currently in a visit to Iraq.

During the meeting, aspects of promoting bilateral cooperation in field of exchanging cultural publications and delegations were discussed.

Paper Criticizes U.S. Concept of Terrorism

JN0307120490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Jul (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has stressed that terrorism in the region can be found in the Zionist entity and that those who aid this terrorism can be found in the United States.

In an article published today under the headline "Who Terrorizes Who?", the paper says: We can write more than one book about the U.S. support for the most hideous forms of Israeli terrorism.

It adds: If the United States is searching for terrorism in the region, then it has in its possession a list of the recent Israeli Government, which is made up of 19 ministers each of whom has a long history of terrorism and a record replete with terrorist operations, beginning with the prime minister and ending with the most junior government minister.

The paper points out that those ministers' heinous crimes were not only committed in the past, other crimes are currently being committed, and, several more crimes are being planned to be carried out during the coming days.

The paper wonders how much the United States knows about the true role played by the Zionist forces in killing the Arabs, using poisonous gas that makes men sterile and pregnant women immediately miscarry, in addition to these forces' role in expelling Palestinians from their lands in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem.

The paper stresses that the United States is the side that pays the cost of these acts, and each time Israel runs out of dollars, the United States sends more dollars to enable it to continue them. During only the first half of this year, the United States twice extended additional aid to Israel under the heading of absorbing new immigrants.

The paper adds: What is happening goes far beyond the word terrorism and far beyond killing and torturing, and it is difficult to say that the United States is not an accomplice in all this because it pays its bill in full and provides it with the cover, support, and legitimacy after it takes place.

The paper adds: The United States is these days returning to its origins after it has introduced basic name changes whereby the owner of the cause becomes a terrorist, and the real terrorist becomes the owner of the state; and the one whose territory, homeland, and country are usurped has become the aggressor, and the real aggressor, who carries out acts of aggression day and night, has become the victim of aggression. The paper says: After all this, the United States searches for terrorism and announces an award for anyone who can lead it to it.

Concluding, the paper says: The United States should reconsider the concept of terrorism and determine who is the terrorist and who is the side that extends aid and support to those who are carrying out acts of terrorism in the occupied Arab territories.

Peace Group Condemns U.S., Israel Policies

JN0107182990 Baghdad INA in English 1630 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, June 30, INA—Iraq's Friendship, Peace and Solidarity Organization has strongly condemned the hostile policies pursued by the American and Zionist circles against the Palestinian people .

In a statement issued today, the organization confirmed that the Zionist threats by using force in countering the Palestinian uprising and security of the Arab countries would endanger the world peace and security.

The statement appealed to all peace loving international organizations to support the Palestinian people and their uprising and back their just right to self-determination.

The statement warned against dangers of the Jewish immigration to occupied Palestine.

The statement stressed the necessity of implementing all Security Council resolutions calling for protecting rights of the Palestinians inside occupied Palestine including their properties.

Paper Analyzes Dangers of Jewish Immigration

JN0407115890 Baghdad INA in English 1110 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Baghdad, July 4, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily has stressed that the Zionist entity's efforts to attract tens of thousands of Jews to occupied Palestine implied a deep hostility stemmed from the expansionist nature of this entity.

In an article published today, the daily has said that the Arab territories, occupied either since 1948 or since 1967, have limited resources, hence bringing large numbers of Jews from the Soviet Union or anywhere else in the world could be a good reason for the Zionists to set up more settlements all over the occupied land, because the existing settlements could no longer afford to accomodate the large numbers of Jewish immigrants.

The daily has confirmed that the danger of the immigration lies in the fact that the settlement inflation in a limited land brings about the need for expansionism, a matter that poses a genuine threat to the pan-Arab security.

It has added that certain military sources refer to Zionist military preparations on the borders with south Lebanon and Jordan and to a U.S.-Zionist coordination in field of air force.

It pointed out that other political analysts also speak of an expected Zionist aggression against the Arab nation, depending on certain facts, but mainly the Jewi h immigration to occupied Palestine, the formation of the new Zionist government and the anti-Iraq hostile campaign being launched by Zionist circles and their allies.

The daily has underlined that the United States' decision to suspend the dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is nothing but an attempt to evade the responsibility for any Zionist act of aggression that might occur during the dialogue.

AL-THAWRAH has confirmed that the Zionist entity is embarking on a serious stage of establishing the so-called 'Greater Israel', a stage even graver than that of declaring the creation of this entity in 1948.

Shamir 'Hinting' at Desire To Meet With Bush

TA0507135290 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] The prime minister believes that to promote the peace process Israel requires a close dialogue with the United States. This dialogue should not take place on the telephone or through messages, but rather in serious face-to-face talks. Our correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar notes that the prime minister is thereby hinting at his desire to meet with President Bush.

In a meeting with three U.S. congressmen known as sympathizers of Israel, the prime minister said that the PLO is the greatest obstacle on the road to peace, and that he welcomes the interruption of the dialogue between the United States and the PLO. According to him, the PLO is now finding it difficult to get its agents to foment the intifadah. The prime minister opined that the level of violence has been on a decline in recent months.

Levi Discusses Need for Understanding With U.S.

TA0507173990 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Press conference by Foreign Minister David Levi on 5 July in Jerusalem; recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles—broadcast in progress]

[Text] Where U.S.-Israeli relations are concerned, no dead-end streets should exist. If they understand us—and I believe this is already happening....[changes thought] It is not as if they were being deceived.

There are two pillars, two vital issues which must be sustained by the two countries: A. Whatever is agreed, must be implemented; B. Situations in which surprises are sprung on Israel must be prevented. This means: frankness; direct talks on issues vital to us and an understanding that there is no compromise on our part because these issues are crucial to our survival; continuation of the peace process; and an understanding that no agreement made between us should be altered behind our backs. If we insist jointly on preserving these two pillars, the structure of peace—based on Israel's security and future—will come to pass.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1700 GMT on 5 July reports that "Foreign Minister David Levi has welcomed the statement attributed to President Bush to the effect that pressure on Israel will not solve the Middle East problem." The report adds that "Levi told a group of visiting U.S. congressmen President Bush's reported statement had been very well received in Israel."]

Levi Asked To Meet Baker; Shamir on U.S. Ties

TA0607043890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State James Baker would like to meet with Israel's Foreign Minister David Levi in the near future. The request is made in a message relayed to the foreign minister by the U.S. ambassador in Israel, William Brown. The letter has been termed warm and very friendly. Baker is said to express his desire to work together with Levi and raised the hope that the two can solve some of the problems.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir spoke on Israel-U.S. relations last night. The prime minister was speaking in Binyamina. Sylvia Lief reports:

[Begin recording] [Lief] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told reporters in Binyamina last night that his letter to President Bush did not contain any new peace initiatives, but only a clarification of Israel's initiatives and an expression of her readiness for a common effort with the United States toward peace in the Middle East. Shamir was doubtful that a detailed response would be received at this stage from Bush.

[Shamir] Well, I don't know if it will come a detailed response, but we are working now and we have some contacts in order to elaborate a common effort to advance the peace process in our region. [sentence as heard]

[Lief] Shamir said no deterioration in U.S.-Israel relations is likely because a basic friendship exists between the two countries and will continue to do so despite divergent viewpoints.

[Shamir] There are some differences of views and I hope that they will be settled.

[Lief] The prime minister was attending the unveiling of a cornerstone at the Jabotinsky Park in memory of those who fought to free Jewish captives for the 'Akko jail before the establishment of the State of Israel. [end recording]

Delegation Returns From Moscow Aircraft Talks

TA0507092790 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 5 Jul 90 pp 1, 14

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer]

[Text] A large Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] delegation has just returned from the USSR, after completing a series of meetings with heads of the Soviet airport authority on the terms for refurbishing Soviet passenger aircraft, in one of the biggest deals ever made by the IAI.

The delegation was made up of 31 engineers and department heads. As will be recalled, during his summit meeting with President Bush in Washington, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev disclosed plans for joint U.S.-USSR-Israeli participation in building passenger aircraft.

The idea behind the plan is for the IAI to manage and supervise the refurbishing of Soviet Ilyushin 11-96 planes in which U.S. engines would be installed. The aeronautics on the aircraft are to be entirely of Israeli manufacture.

Contacts with the U.S. Administration are under way behind the scenes to permit the transfer of U.S. technology for the Soviet aircraft.

Foreign Ministry sources told our correspondent that if an agreement is signed between the IAI and the Soviet authorities, it would be a breakthrough in relations between the two countries.

Poll Shows Majority Favor German Unification

TA0607105290 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Jul 90 p 1

[Public opinion poll conducted for YEDI'OT AHARONOT by Dahaf Institute under the directorship of Dr. Mina Tzemah]

[Text] Question: What is your attitude toward the unification of the two Germanys: positive, negative, or indifferent? (The replies are given in percentages.)

Positive	Negative	Indifferent
36	28	35

Question (to respondents who stated a negative attitude): Does your negative stand stem from a fear of a large Germany or from a desire to punish Germany?

Fear	Desire to Punish
87	11

The poll, which was conducted this week against the backdrop of the German monetary unification, included 602 persons who were polled in telephone interviews and constituted a representative sample of the Jewish population.

Liberian Rebel Spokesman on Future Relations

TA0507180190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] A top figure in the Liberian Patriotic Front [name as heard] says when his faction takes control of the country, it will not downgrade relations between Liberia and Israel. Tom Woewiyu is on his way from the United States to Liberia as Patriotic Front forces close in on the capital of Monrovia.

In an exclusive interview with Voice of Israel's Gid'on Remez, Woewiyu claims Israeli military personnel have been assisting the government of Samuel Doe for the past 10 years:

[Begin recording] [Woewiyu] This training and this expertise have been used viciously against our people. But in light of all this—and we are about to change that—we have no intention to change the relationship between the two countries, because this relationship was put together between the people of Israel and the people of Liberia. [end recording]

Woewiyu also referred to Israeli business interests in Liberia which, he said, had acted without restraint. He was especially critical of methods used by Israeli lumber companies.

[Begin recording] [Woewiyu] If this had continued, I believe Liberia would have been a desert country in a very short time, because they were cutting down flower trees and anything that had wood. What we are saying is, the Israeli companies have done in Liberia, they built Pentagon-style defense department while some of our people were starving. [sentence as heard] To the people it looked like the more we got involved with these companies, the more security apparatus got put up, and the more this machinery was used against the people there. [end recording]

Woewiyu told our reporter that if Samuel Doe does not flee the country by the time the Patriotic Front takes power, he will be put on trial.

Aviation Agreement With SFRY Initialed 5 Jul

TA0607115590 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Jul 90 p 2

[Report by Arye Egozi]

[Text] An aviation agreement signed yesterday between Yugoslavia and Israel will allow two SFRY airlines to fly to Israel. At present, only SFRY's Adria Airline has flights to Israel, parallel to El Al flights.

The agreement, which was initialed yesterday by representatives of the Yugoslav and the Israeli aviation authorities, requires the approval of the two countries' governments.

PRC Buys Medical Equipment From Israeli Firm

TA0307144790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] The PRC has bought several million dollars worth of nuclear medical simulators [as heard] from the Israeli firm Elscint. Elscint has set up training centers in Beijing and Shanghai, and its teams are teaching Chinese engineers to operate the systems. Our economic affairs correspondent Gadi Sukenik points out that Elscint also supplies ultrasound equipment and computerized scanners to the PRC.

Army Warns of New PLO Strongholds in Lebanon

TA0407174390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Near the township of Jazzin, in south Lebanon, three terrorists were killed by the gunfire of General Lahd's soldiers. The South Lebanese Army [SLA] suffered no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports:

This morning's clash again focuses attention on a sector that has recently become the most problematic in south

Lebanon, because it again involves the direct confrontation of the PLO with the SLA, and in fact with the IDF [Israel Defense Force]. Last night, in Jazzin, Lahd's soldiers identified 3 figures moving toward one of the lookout posts around the township. The soldiers in the outpost opened fire, and in searches they conducted at dawn they found the bodies of three terrorists, probably Palestinians.

In the IDF they openly say today: The stronghold the Palestinian terrorists have recently managed to obtain east of Sidon is very dangerous and problematic. Their activity is carried out in proximity to the Jazzin city limits, while they have taken over another axis through which they move to attack the security zone.

More than 1,000 Palestinian terrorists have entered the Tuffah region villages, thus making it a partition area between the Shiite militias of Amal and Hizballah. They have demonstrated organization and fighting abilities that have surprised many. PLO headquarters in Sidon was quick to realize that Palestinian strongholds in deserted villages are easy prey for Air Force planes and Lahd's artillery in Jazzin. That is why the PLO has initiated an operation to resettle Shiite villages. PLO headquarters is today paying between $800 and $1,000 to each family that returns to the villages east of Sidon. These villagers serve as human fortifications, a human shield for the terrorists who believe that the IDF will hesitate to conduct air raids on villages where terrorists and innocent villagers live together.

Air Force Attacks 'Terrorist' Targets in Lebanon

TA0607062890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Air Force planes this morning attacked terrorist bases south of al-Sultan Ya'qub in the al-Biqa' Valley and north of Tripoli in the Khan Hayyat area. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the targets were hit and all our planes returned safely. The targets hit were used as bases for organizing and as points of departure for attacks against Israel for Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command. Correspondents in the al-Biqa' reported that the terrorists' ammunition dump in al-Sultan Ya'qub is up in flames.

Official Says War Rhetoric Raises Tension

TA0307174090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] The chief of military intelligence says Iraq's threats of war are increasing tensions in the Middle East. But, Major General Amnon Shahaq says, the red alert has not been lit in the region. Shahaq was speaking this afternoon to the Foreign Press Association in Jerusalem.

[Begin Shahaq recording] I doubt if we are in the red light at the moment; I hope we are not—or, not hope; I believe that we are not. Maybe I would agree that we went from the green light to the orange one. But I believe and I hope that we'll never come to the red light.

When you reach the red light there is always...[changes thought] miscalculations can happen. Maybe that other countries believe that if there is any tension in the area, it might be easier for them to get some economic help from their neighboring countries. Maybe there are many other reasons that I don't know about. But I agree, I fully agree, that just the talking and the rhetoric about a possible war contributes nothing but higher tension. [end recording]

Arab Leaders Seen To Reject Autonomy Concept

TA0407103690 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jul 90 p A5

[Report by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] "If the political stalemate continues and the process involving the residents of the territories in a political move does not move forward, it is very conceivable that extreme Palestinian elements will decide to carry out direct attacks against settlements in the West Bank, too." This assessment belongs to senior defense elements who have been closely following developments in the territories.

These elements estimate that since the present situation offers no chance for tangible progress or for a resolution of the stalemate, a further exacerbation of the violence in the territories—whose first signs have already been manifested—is to be expected. They believe that the absence of prospects for progress stems from the chasm separating the position of the Israeli defense and political establishments from that of the leadership of the territories. While the latter outright rejects any dialogue based on the plan envisioning autonomy, the entire Israeli willingness to launch a dialogue—even on the part of the most moderate circles—is based on autonomy as a lengthy interim phase.

As far as territories leaders of all levels and ranks are concerned, autonomy has become a four-letter word which they absolutely refuse to discuss. For them, autonomy is laden with very negative connotations founded on experience acquired in the wake of the Camp David accords. They regard Israeli politicians' proposals expressing their readiness to establish autonomy in the territories as a scam aiming to circumvent the Palestinian problem, just as Menachem Begin tried to do. The only political solution the Palestinians in the territories are ready to discuss is the establishment of an independent Palestinian entity.

Also, elections in the territories depend on an explicit promise, which the PLO will demand, that the elections will be only the first step in a long-range plan concluding with the establishment of an independent Palestinian entity. Without such a promise, the PLO will not consent to the elections, and without such consent, there will be no chance of holding them.

Along with and resulting from the political freeze, the West Bank religious leadership has amassed power and acquired an increasingly strong political position. The senior defense elements estimate that at present, about 25 percent of the West Bank population supports the Islamic leadership, versus about 75 percent still supporting the national leadership.

The deteriorating economic situation also plays into the hands of the Islamic leaders, because the clerical organizations are greatly involved in the population's social activities, maintaining a network of institutions which provide various social assistance.

Paradoxically, it is Jordan that supports the West Bank's religious leadership, despite King Husayn's fear of the rise of clerical elements in his Kingdom. Jordan's support for the West Bank clerical establishment is reflected mainly in the transfer of funds to the Muslim Waqf institutions.

Egypt's Al-Majid Sends Levi Message

TA0307165190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid is sure that when he meets his counterpart David Levi they will find a common language. He said this was because Minister Levi was born in that region of the world and is acquainted with the way Arabs think.

Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that this is stated in a verbal message relayed by outgoing Ambassador Shim'on Shamir from 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid to Jerusalem. Minister 'Abd-al-Majid also notes that Egypt knows the political process is arduous, but he believes it can be advanced.

Arens on Iraq, Syria, Measures in Territories

TA0507175390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe, in Gaza on 5 July—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] Defense Minister Moshe Arens, accompanied by Chief of Staff Dan Shomron and other senior officers, toured Dayr al-Balah today, met local Palestinian residents, and congratulated Bedouin trackers on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha. Minister Arens stressed that he has been conducting almost daily meetings with the Palestinian populace in the territories in order to create a basis for the continuation of the dialogue along the lines of the Israeli peace initiative.

We are closely monitoring the steps taken, he said, such as the reinforcement of traffic arteries on the one hand and the release of about 500 prisoners on the other. We hope that this will help calm the area, and are considering additional measures. The minister was later asked about the repeated threats issued by Saddam Husayn:

[Arens] Of course, Israel can immediately counter such an attack. The chief of staff is sitting right next to me. The IDF [Israel Defense Force] is entrusted with making sure we have the means to counterattack if attacked. We will and do have such countermeasures. We wish to do all in our power, however, to avoid the need to use such countermeasures, and reach a situation in which no one will dare attack us. Saddam Husayn certainly bothers us because he makes speeches threatening us nearly every day; he asserts that war is seemingly inevitable. We will do all in our power to deter him from attacking us.

[Menashe] Military sources once again reiterated and stressed that in the lack of any progress in the political process, an exacerbation of the situation with Iraq, as well as with the other Arab states, is to be expected.

[Arens] I am sorry to hear this because I believe that anyone familiar with the region, and who has had the pleasure of listening to Saddam Husayn firsthand, knows that there is no connection between political realities here and the political process, and Saddam Husayn's plans.

[Menashe] Mr. Arens, you called for talks with Syria, and spoke of Syrian pragmatism. Can the same pragmatism you speak of be found in Israel?

[Arens] I cannot accept the tone of your question, and I believe that there are only a few Israelis who will condone what I fear you implied. Every Israeli, and, I believe, most Arabs in the Middle East, knows that our hand has been outstretched for peace ever since the establishment of the State of Israel. The fact that our peace agreement with Egypt remains the one and only peace agreement to be signed stems from the fact that the rest of the Arab states refused to do so, and apparently even today remain unwilling to sit with us at the negotiating table.

[Menashe] Responding to the question of whether the current situation perpetuates the deadlock, Minister Arens replied that if al-Asad or Husayn refuse to come to the negotiating table it is not our fault, and that whoever subscribes to this opinion is indulging in self-mortification and masochism.

Banker Safra, Al-Asad Discuss 'Negotiations'

TA0407112290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Jul 90 p A4

["Exclusive" report by London correspondent Sha'ul Tzedaqa]

[Text] Edmond Safra, the Jewish banker from Halab, recently visited Damascus and met Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Diplomatic sources in London reported that Safra, who is known to be friendly with the president's family, was not sent to Damascus by the Israeli Government, but went with its prior knowledge. He spoke with his hosts about the possibility of future negotiations between Syria and Israel. In the past, Safra had handled issues relating to Syrian Jewry.

This is not the first time that reports of secret contacts between Jerusalem and Damascus have been published in London. In February it was reported that two Israeli officials had met for informal talks with Syrian representatives in Vienna. One of them was a professor from the Weizman Institute. The report was neither confirmed nor denied by official Israeli sources.

Safra's visit to Damascus was considered a predictable step by London pundits, following Yitzhaq Shamir's recent declaration that he wants to conduct direct talks with the Syrians.

Citing Leaks, Arens Cancels Territories Forum

TA0607104690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has canceled the territories forum, which used to meet regularly on Fridays, due to leaks from its meetings.

Our Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe has learned that Minister Arens decided to continue holding discussions on the territories on different days and within different frameworks, but to stop Friday's regular territories forum. The chief of staff, his deputy, IDF [Israel Defense Force] generals, and the heads of the Civil Administration used to participate in the territories forum.

Soldier Jailed for Refusing Service in Gaza Strip

TA0407163890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] A member of the Ramat Gan city magistrate, 'Ofer Gur-Arye, has refused military service in the Gaza Strip. He was sentenced to 28 days in military prison. Gur-Arye is also a member of the CRM [Citizens Rights Movement] secretariat. He is the 115th soldier jailed for refusing service in the territories since the intifadah broke out.

Labor Party Rules on Issue of Peres' Replacement

TA0407094190 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 4 Jul 90 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] Labour Party leader Shim'on Peres may be replaced if the Central Committee so decides, even though he was elected Labour's candidate for prime minister for the entire Knesset term, the party's Constitutional Committee ruled yesterday. Peres is considering appealing the ruling.

Peres said in response that he does not believe the Central Committee members would lend a hand to "toppling" him from his position, "no matter what name this act is given."

Challenger Yitzhaq Rabin's camp is reformulating its proposition for tomorrow's Political Bureau meeting in light of this decision.

The Constitutional Committee ruled that Labour's Central Committee is the body authorized to determine whether there will be a showdown on the party's leadership and to hold the contest. The Constitutional Committee also ruled that the party's candidate for premier may be changed in mid-term, on condition that both the Central Committee and the Knesset faction so decide. [passage omitted]

To Decide on Race in Two Weeks

TA0507165490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] The Labor Party Central Committee will convene in approximately two weeks to rule on controversial points disputed by the Rabin and the Peres camps with regard to the contest between the two men. Our party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the Central Committee will have to determine whether a new chairman is to be elected, and when; it will also rule on the question of when the Labor Party's candidate for the position of prime minister is to be elected and how these elections will be held.

Our correspondent adds that the decision to hold the convention was a compromise between the two camps.

Knesset Member [MK] Shahal said that if there is sufficient time to prepare for the race, he too will be a candidate. MK Ya'aqobi announced that if a third candidate joins the race, he will be the fourth.

Urged To Elect New Candidate

TA0607095090 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Jul 90 p 7

[Editorial: "Labor Has Put Off the Contest"]

[Text] Last night the Labor Party Bureau decided to postpone its decision on the race for party leader by two weeks. The party is known for its restrained style when it comes to internal feuds, although this time the restraint seems to be a cover for a sharp and bitter confrontation. The deferral of the decision is a compromise meant to avoid a clash over a procedural matter, yet it is a temporary and short-term hiatus only.

Last week a number of prominent intellectuals came out with declarations in support of Peres. Their support stems more from their opposition to Rabin than from their love of Peres. Rabin, no doubt, is himself under a heavy shadow, one which would have threatened him even if he were party leader, in the form of the charges against him regarding his views on policy in the territories. The statement by the intellectuals came to remind the Labor Party that its long-standing sin is not only its "lack of success" in the ballot boxes, but the fact that it has been disguising its positions and glossing over the

general struggle on the party's line. That segment of the public which could conceivably be satisfied with the instruction, attributed to Rabin, to break [rioting Arabs'] limbs cannot, evidently, be numbered among the Labor Party's potential electorate. Those who might join its ranks are expecting Rabin to come out with explanations, not evasions.

Rabin's problem has for years been not only that Peres defeated him in contests, but the more fundamental problem that his path is unacceptable to a large segment of the party. Even if the polls show that Rabin is popular among the majority of the public, he must represent the Labor Party's path, not that of a certain faction within. On the other hand, Peres' reelection without a major reversal of his public standing is a sure recipe for suicide. In light of all this, it becomes clear why the Labor Party is doomed to undergo a lengthy and painful process in which the postponement that was decided upon last night is only another step.

The Peres-Rabin feud appears more and more impossible, and serves to sully the Labor Party further in the public's eye. Nor does it do any honor to people like Arye Eli'av, Yitzhaq Navon, or 'Uzi Bar'am, who openly proclaim their support for a candidate of whose views they disapprove. Of all the viewpoints expressed in the Labor Party at present, that of Hayim Ramon, who is not prepared to support either of the candidates and is thereby trying to prod the Labor Party to move on to the next generation in a bid to find a leader who will both represent the party's path and also manage to restore its broad public support, seems the most correct.

Poll Gives Breakdown of Teen Drug Abuse

TA0607104190 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Jul 90 pp 1, 5

[Report by Tzvi Singer]

[Text] Some 2.6 percent of schoolchildren raised in very religious and observant homes use hard drugs, versus "only" 1.8 percent of schoolchildren from secular homes, and 1.2 percent of students from homes where some of the religious laws are observed.

This is one of the surprising findings of a recent survey conducted by PORI [expansion unknown] for the Anti-Drug Authority. This finding negates the prevalent assumption that fewer youths reared in very religious homes use drugs.

The survey shows that over six percent of Israeli schoolchildren aged 12 to 18—totaling about 24,000 youths—have used drugs in the past year. A quarter of these—1.5 percent—used hard drugs.

The survey was conducted among a large sample of 8,151 pupils from schools supervised by the Education and Culture and Labor and Social Affairs Ministries. The independent (ultraorthodox) education network, which was also invited to participate in the survey, refused to cooperate with the pollsters.

The survey's graver findings include the following:

—In the last week covered by the survey, four out of every 1,000 students used heroin or opium on a daily basis; four of every 1,000 used cocaine; three of every 1,000 used hallucinogenic drugs (such as LSD); and three out of every 1,000 students used Adolan [prescription drug substitute].

Sources in the Anti-Drug Authority noted that some of the schoolchildren who reported using cocaine may have meant Persian coke, which is a kind of heroin.

—In the last week covered by the survey, 12 out of every 1,000 schoolchildren used hashish (not on a daily basis); nine out of every 1,000 schoolchildren used hallucinogenic drugs; nine out of every 1,000 used Adolan; nine out of every 1,000 used heroin or opium; and 10 out of every 1,000 used cocaine.

—The use of hard drugs by pupils is not affected much by age. Some 1.5 percent of the 12 to 14 year olds reported using hard drugs, versus 1.8 percent reported by the 17 to 18 year olds. The conclusion: Contrary to expectations, hard drug abuse begins at a very early age; therefore, prevention and education should be introduced in the first grades of school.

—The breakdown of hard drug abuse by sex is five boys to one girl. Conversely, in general drug abuse terms (including sleeping pills and tranquilizers sold over the counter), the ratio is one to one.

—Drug abuse is twice as common in cases in which one, or both, of the child's parents is dead.

Interview With Prince Hasan Reported

JN0607101090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan has said that energy and water have always caused Arab-Israeli conflagrations in the past, expressing the belief that the next decade will be full of such events. His highness added that the region's states used to be influenced by policies imposed on them from outside. Among these policies was the issue of increased consumption. He referred to the high per capita consumption of water in Israel, in addition to the great obsession to allow the immigration of more consumers, or more Soviet Jews to Israel over the next few years. This came in a statement to London radio's "Around the Arab World" feature. The feature was devoted to the interview with his highness and was aired this evening. His highness hoped a policy would emerge to solve differences in this area between Turkey and Syria and between Turkey and Iraq. His highness said: As for maintaining the status quo, vital economic and water issues, undoubtedly, are linked with a comprehensive political solution that recognizes all human rights, including the right to a decent living; by which I mean water, agricultural, and other rights.

On his highness' evaluation of the efforts to restructure the Jordanian economy, his highness Crown Prince Hasan said: Regarding our dialogue with international institutions, I believe efforts have begun to produce clear results in terms of increased Jordanian exports and sound use of the purchasing power of the dinar, in addition to clear emphasis on exporting, expanding markets, and broadening the scope of conventional investments in Jordan. His highness added that the door is open for new investments in Jordan, especially in the Jordanian chemicals and chemical fertilizers sector, or in the sectors that we hope will take a qualitative step forward, such as medicines, which are now being exported to the United States and Europe and which have the highest world specifications. He indicated that the new European market, that is, East Europe and the Soviet Union, have begun to welcome Jordanian exports.

His highness said Arab aid approved in principle by the recent Baghdad summit has been welcomed as Arab aid and assistance, especially for the heavy Jordanian responsibilities in the field of joint national security, and has begun to arrive in Jordan. This means some relaxation.

Asked whether his highness believes that the readaptation program agreed upon with the IMF is sufficient to resolve the economic crisis in Jordan and to overcome its negative effects, such as unemployment, inflation, and price hikes, his highness said all these issues are being tackled through Jordanian programs and within Jordan's capabilities. His Highness referred to the constant effect of demographics, which raises large questions about the future of the occupied territories and the emigration issue.

His highness reaffirmed that the economy in the occupied territories requires support. He said: Support is required for the Palestinian people and for Jordan. This is part of one perspective, but as for issues related to pan-Arab and national Jordanian security, this is an issue that we alone cannot decide, but we depend on Arab will and clarity of vision. I believe this is what has been approved by the recent Baghdad summit and what will be emphasized at the next Arab meetings.

Asked how Jordan is dealing with forced emigration from the occupied territories and [Israel's] prevention of those returning from Gulf states from returning to the occupied territories, his highness said: ASEAN has crystallized the concept of a fund for emigration, and the emigration of labor in particular. This issue has been of concern to Jordan since the mid-seventies. We are demanding a compensation fund for economic emigration by the Jordanian labor force to rich states in our region. We hope the next summit in Cairo, God willing, will provide an opportunity for discussing integration between the Arab states attracting labor and Arab states exporting it.

King Husayn Sends Condolences to King Fahd

JN0407113790 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] His majesty the king has sent a cable to King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia expressing condolences on the death of a number of pilgrims at the al-Mu'aysim tunnel accident on Monday [2 July]. His majesty noted that Saudi Arabia has made enormous efforts to facilitate the travel and stay of Muslim pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. However, despite the efficient preparations throughout the year, it was God's will that the accident takes place.

His majesty paid tribute to King Fahd who has devoted his life and the resources of his country to the service of the Muslim nation, noting that the Saudi monarch has made this goal his most cherished ideal.

TWA Hijacker Maghniyah Returns to Beirut

NC0507161490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Sources close to Hizballah have revealed that 'Imad Maghniyah, one of the founders of the Islamic Jihad Organization, has returned to Lebanon from Tehran. He is reported to have left Tehran because of the pressure exerted on him by the Iranian authorities who are trying to improve relations with the West.

The sources said that Maghniyah had lived in a Tehran hotel for the past three years and carried an Iranian passport. The sources added that Maghniyah visited Beirut several times in past years and inspected the foreign hostages and their guards.

Maghniyah masterminded the TWA plane hijacking in Beirut in 1985 and the killing of a Marine aboard it.

Israel Reportedly on Alert, Deploys Brigade

NC0507113590 (Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon 1030 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] According to reports from the occupied border strip, the occupation forces have been placed on a state of alert. These forces have brought in reinforcements comprising 500 troops, 60 armored vehicles—including tanks and M-113 troop carriers—and mortar guns of various calibers. The reports also mention that the occupation forces have deployed an armored brigade along the area facing the border strip on the side of upper Galilee in the occupied territories.

Enemy aircraft have conducted repeated overflights in the occupied areas over the past two days.

Israeli Warplanes Overfly Iqlim Al-Kharrub 5 Jul

NC0507155690 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] For the third consecutive day, Israeli warplanes overflew the Iqlim al-Kharrub region, dropping illumination flares. A state of alert was declared among the fighters in anticipation of any sudden raids.

Israeli Aircraft Attack PFLP-GC Positions

Raid Al-Sultan Ya'Qub

NC0607061190 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0600 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Israeli warplanes have launched an air raid against Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command positions in the township of al-Sultan Ya'qub south of the al-Biqa plain. Citing security reports, AFP said that a formation of four Israeli aircraft raided the Palestinian positions, but it has not yet reported on property damage or casualties.

Blow Up Ammunition Dump

NC0607063090 Paris AFP in English 0626 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Rashayya, Lebanon, July 6 (AFP)—Israeli jets blew up an extremist Palestinian group's ammo dump in an attack Friday in Lebanon's Syrian-controlled al-Biqa valley, correspondents in the region reported.

Four planes attacked a base of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), which investigators have linked to the December 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 270 people.

It was the eleventh Israeli air raid in Lebanon this year and the third against the pro-Iranian PFLP-GC.

There were no immediate reports of casualties at the base in Sultan Ya'qub, which the Israelis attacked four times last year.

REUTER Details Raid

NC0607071790 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0655 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] According to security sources, Israeli aircraft raided a center of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command in the al-Sultan Ya'qub area of Western al-Biqa' today.

Citing the security sources, REUTER said that three Israeli Phantom fighters carried out the air strike shortly before 0800 today. The Israeli aircraft fired six air-to-surface missiles. Meanwhile, four other planes overflew the area, ejecting thermal balloons and providing protection.

While the sources made no mention of losses in life, it has been reported that explosions were heard from afar and that columns of black smoke were seen billowing from the targeted position.

Second Raid Targets Naval Base

NC0607082790 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Six Israeli fighters carried out two air raids against two positions of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine—General Command between 0745 and 0800 today. The first raid was targeted against a provisions center in the Sultan Ya'qub town in al-Biqa', and the second was targeted against a naval base north of Tripoli.

According to preliminary reports, five people were injured in the second raid.

Hizballah Radio Comments Further on Hajj Deaths

NC0607095590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Yesterday the Hejaz Ulema Association ['ulama' al-din fi al-hijaz] issued a statement commenting on the death of approximately 1,500 pilgrims in the al-Mu'aysim tunnel in Mina. The association said that the agents of the Al Sa'ud have masterminded this latest horrendous massacre. The statement says that the allegations that the Saudi authorities made about the causes of this painful tragedy contradict all logic. The statement also refers to the hypocritic messages which America and Britain sent to Al Sa'ud to conceal the truth of this horrendous disaster from public opinion.

The statement says that the incident underlines the ineptitude of the Al Sa'ud. The statement calls on the ulema of the Islamic world to perform their religious duties by seeking to free the holy places from the domination of this agent tribe.

Meanwhile, reliable reports indicate that the pilgrims were heading from al-Muzdalifah to Mina through various tunnels, including al-Mu'aysim, when a gathering resembling a demonstration formed spontaneously. This spread panic in the ranks of the Saudi police, particularly as the hajj rhymes were being chanted loudly and the atmosphere was tense. The police then surrounded the area and closed the al-Mu'aysim tunnel entrances, particularly after rumors were circulated to the effect that Islamic placards were raised inside the tunnel.

The Saudi police fired tear gas canisters and bullets to disperse the pilgrims, causing many to die from suffocation and bullets. The pilgrims were soon screaming for help as the tunnel remained closed and they were trapped inside.

Yesterday, African pilgrims said that shooting took place inside the tunnel, causing confusion. Afterward, the pilgrims could not ascertain what happened as the Saudi police surrounded the area.

These reports are strengthened by the fact that the Saudi police have so far declined to hand over the bodies of the pilgrims and the victims to their relatives. This is because these bodies will be bullet-ridden and will bear the tell-tale signs of suffociation from gas.

Envoys To Discuss Soviet Arab Summit Proposal

LD0507105590 Kuwait KUNA in English 0836 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Beirut, July 5 (KUNA)—Lebanon has asked its diplomatic missions in a number of Arab countries to hold high-level contacts with officials of those countries on the Soviet proposal to hold a summit meeting for countries neighboring Israel.

Arab diplomatic sources told KUNA here Thursday that the Lebanese Foreign Ministry had asked its ambassadors to Egypt, Jordan and other Arab countries to contact their foreign ministers over the Soviet proposal.

The proposal, naming Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and Jordan to attend such a summit, was conveyed last Saturday to the Foreign Ministry here from the Soviet charge d'affaires to coordinate those countries' stands toward the recently-formed Israeli rightist government of Yitzhaq Shamir.

The sources, which said that the Soviet Jews emigration to Israel and its repercussions would feature high on such a summit, predicted that the proposal would be met with concern by those countries.

Israel Blamed for Plight of West Africa Lebanese

PM0307161190 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jun 90 p 4

[Munsif al-Salimi report: "Acting Lebanese Foreign Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Israel Behind What Happened to Lebanese in West Africa"]

[Excerpts] Rabat, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Mr. 'Ali al-Khalil, Lebanese finance minister and acting foreign minister, has accused Israel of being behind the predicament which the Lebanese community is suffering in the West Africa region. He said: The Israeli element is behind what has happened to the Lebanese community in particular and the Arab community in general in the West African countries. Al-Khalil said that his move to contain the situation includes visits to several African and European capitals.

He added: We consider this issue to be the cornerstone in Arab-African relations, which we are eager to continue and strengthen in the interests of both Arabs and Africans. [passage omitted]

Al-Khalil, who left for France yesterday, said that the Lebanese expatriate's role in the West African countries is very positive and vital and is based on the principle of positive cooperation with the region's regimes and peoples. He said that history is the witness.

On his position on the Lebanese communities' link with the explosive political events in some countries, he said: The Lebanese do not interfere in the political affairs of those countries.

Al-Khalili called on the Lebanese community to cooperate with the peoples and regimes in the region.

On the adverse effects of events on the Lebanese community, Al-Khalili said that matters were not as bad as portrayed by the media, pointing out that it is in the Lebanese community's interests to preserve the stability of their conditions. [passage omitted]

Junblatt Claims Israel Allows Arms Transit

NC0507101790 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, has drawn attention to the continuous danger which Israel poses to Lebanon and to the flow of destructive weapons designed to ensure that Lebanon continues to be a battlefield. He asserted that large quantities of arms are reaching the Palestinians in South Lebanon and the Lebanese Forces in the north.

In an interview with the UPI, Junblatt said that a ship called "Atlantic" has repeatedly sailed from Iraq loaded with arms and unloaded at Sidon Port and at a port under the control of the Lebanese Forces north of Beirut. Junblatt added that the Israeli gunboats which cruise the Lebanese territorial waters do not intercept the arms shipments. He emphasized that the Israelis give assistance to all parties in Lebanon so that they will fight and destroy each other.

Asked if he is prepared to disband his militia, Junblatt said: How can I disband my militia when the militias everywhere are strengthening their positions and when the government to which I belong seems to be gambling. He asked: Who will protect me and who will give me guarantees if I decide to disband the militia? He pointed out that he will not do such a thing now that the Lebanese Forces have obtained more weapons and the Palestinians in South Lebanon have acquired more strength. Junblatt emphasized that the Palestinians constitute a considerable force in Lebanon saying: What will we do if there is a plan to remove them from the occupied territories into Lebanon and Jordan?

Junblatt reiterated that an Arab-Israeli war is likely after Soviet Jews' immigration to the occupied territory. He said: I simply see that the war is coming and that Israel will find some motives in South Lebanon or some excuse against Saddam Husayn to launch a military operation.

Interior Minister Urges Calm, Criticizes 'Awn

PM0507124390 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 3 Jul 90 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Lebanese Interior Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Situation in Lebanon Is Better Now"]

[Excerpts] Beirut, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Lebanese Interior Minister Shaykh Ilyas al-Khazin has emphasized that the situation in Lebanon today is better than a month or two ago. He told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: No longer does anyone in east Beirut demand the government's removal, or the deputies' return to their homes, or the withdrawal of their powers. In fact recognition of the authority represented by President Ilyas al-Hirawi and the government of Dr. Salim al-Huss has now become a reality. It is the other party which needs the government's recognition now, not the other way round.

Shaykh Ilyas al-Khazin said that "the initiatives advanced by some European parties are based on prior recognition of the Lebanese national accord document endorsed by Lebanese deputies. And if there are problems facing these initiatives, the person responsible is General Michel 'Awn, who, as a result of his recent successive losses, is trying to find a way out by increasing his demands. [passage omitted]

Shaykh al-Khazin said: Our government does not seek further fragmentation among Lebanese ranks. If the General wants to put an end to that fragmentation, he has no option but to abandon his threats and opposition, from which he has gained nothing, and join the legitimate government. If he has a request or an objection, let him submit it to the Council of Ministers to accept or reject.

Shaykh Ilyas al-Khazin added: The Lebanese Interior Ministry carries out its work within the limits allowed by conditions in Lebanon. But it must be said that until now this ministry has done nothing unacceptable to any party. We have not clashed with any group. In fact they all cooperate with us within the limits allowed by the conditions and complications dominating the political atmosphere in Lebanon.

The interior minister said that he would not purchase any military equipment for his ministry: What is required today is calm on all fronts and encouragement for peace initiatives in order to achieve national reconciliation first, so that the ministries' work can become more productive. [passage omitted]

Al-Huss Criticizes Junblatt Over Accusations

NC0507091690 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss was asked his opinion of the accusations and attacks which Minister Walid Junblatt made against him during his absence abroad. Prime Minister al-Huss said: We feel sorry for a person who is supposed to be responsible but has stooped to the level of uttering slander and banal abuse. Anyone who can find no way of addressing people other than villifying them deserves to be pitied because villification is the argument of a bankrupt person. At any rate, we are confident that when the dossiers are opened, our past will bear witness for us and his past will bear witness against him. If he entertains any illusion that the haphazard falsehoods he utters will deceive anybody, then we advise him to stop scorning the minds and intelligence of the people. Despite the wonders of this age, white cannot be made black and the defendant will not become a judge in the sight of those who have eyes to see him.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: Our dignity is our wealth. We did not amass this wealth through exploitation, embezzlement, excesses, or violations. If he dreams of stabbing us in our most sensitive spot—our dignity—then he is grossly mistaken. The arrows of falsehood will soon turn around and hit the one who shot them.

Commentary Says Israel Wants 'Docile' U.S.

JN0507144790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] It has been revealed that a pamphlet is being distributed in occupied Palestine asking the Zionist settlers to shoot indiscriminately at the Arabs and kill the largest number possible to earn God's good will. The seven-page pamphlet explains ways to save on ammunition and to surprise demonstrating Arabs with extensive fire.

Observers have established a link between this pamphlet and the Shamir government's decision to set up a civilian guard of settlers to support the occupation forces in quelling the intifadah under the guise of protecting the settlers' security.

Despite the fact that the Zionist police denied knowing who had issued the pamphlet, it is crystal clear that Israel's big hawks and symbols of extremism in the government are behind it.

Sharon has been given great license to expand the settlement operations and build tens of thousands of residences for Jewish immigrants. Sharon works in perfect coordination with Agriculture Minister Refa'el Eytan, who also harbors the most dangerous intentions toward the Palestinian Arabs and who sets up schemes to strip them of the rest of their lands and prevent water from reaching them so that they will emigrate en masse.

War Minister Moshe Arens along with his ranking officers has managed to draw up new oppressive measures to cause the greatest harm to Arab citizens. All these men work in an internal committee to double the population of Israel and set up Greater Israel by splitting the roles among themselves.

If we keep track of Foreign Minister Levi's statements, for example, or those of Shamir or his spokesman, we get the initial impression that the enemy government is leaning toward a policy of peace, contrary to the world's judgement that it is a government of war and tension. If we examine these statements closely, we discover the extent of deception and treachery practiced by the Israeli prime minister and his direct aides. They demand strong ties with the United States. However, it is based on non-recognition of Palestinian rights and on a set written agreement opposing the Palestinian state.

In other words, the enemy leaders do not merely want to obstruct any kind of U.S.-Arab understanding, but want to push the United States into direct struggle against the Arab cause and to destroy any possible U.S.-Arab dialogue so that Washington will lose its credibility in the region once and for all and find itself in the trench of direct hostility to the Arabs and their interests.

From the moment President Bush came to office, the U.S. Administration promised to follow more coherent and balanced policies concerning the peace process. James Baker presented his well known initiative. He tried without success to convince Israel to accept it. Despite the fact that the initiative does not fulfill the Arabs' true demands, Israel categorically rejected it and put up all possible obstacles. This is because the U.S. President has repeatedly expressed opposition to Jewish settlement in the occupied territories. Israel considers this a threat to the Greater Israel scheme.

Proceeding from this, the slyness in the enemy leaders' stance can be summarized thus: We support peace efforts on condition that Palestinians are excluded. Since the Palestine question is the essence of the struggle in the region, the Israeli aims become crystal clear inasmuch as it is calling on the United States to declare war on the Palestinian people. Israel does not want peace; it is not even thinking of peace. What Israel wants is expansion and aggression; what it is thinking about is how to best evict the Palestinian Arabs from their land without creating an international problem and turning the international community against it.

When the enemy leaders flirt with Washington, it is nothing more than a fresh attempt to render the current U.S. Administration sufficiently docile so that it will remain quiet about the massacres that are being planned in the occupied territories and prevent the international community from taking deterrent measures against Israel.

Commentary Questions U.S. Role in Peace Process

JN0600095700 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Palestine broadcast: Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers: At the same time U.S. President Bush was receiving Shamir's letter, in which he rejected peace and insisted on no Palestinian participation, whether from occupied Jerusalem or abroad, in any dialogue—which means Israel's rejection of U.S. Secretary of State Baker's proposals—the U.S. Senate Foreign and Security Committee [name as heard] was approving $3 billion in aid to Israel, apart from various other types of U.S. assistance to Israel. The U.S. contribution to Israel's economy and its aggressive, expansionist plans thus amounts to $7 billion.

Moreover, it was reported that Israeli aircraft had been painted in the colors of U.S. aircraft and were carrying the U.S. Air Force insignia in preparation for aggression against Libya. This means the joint U.S.-Israeli aggressive preparations go beyond all conceivable limits, which makes us ask: What is the use of relying on a U.S. role in the peace process—a process which is still an illusion manipulated by U.S. diplomacy—if the U.S. is actively supporting the continuation of the Israeli occupation and Israel's aggressive, expansionist policy, and if the U.S. continues to reward Israel for its crimes and terrorist acts?

U.S. talk about peace and about dialogue with the PLO has turned into a process of deliberate paralysis of part of the Palestinian struggle. Therefore, the Palestinians in

the diaspora should take part in this struggle by supporting the kinfolk's intifadah in the homeland.

This is the U.S. policy toward the Palestinians. It is a policy that, it seems, seeks to handcuff the Palestinians' hands so the Israelis can stab them.

Commentary Considers Israeli Options

JN0307143290 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the Palestinian intifadah records increasing struggle activity each day. It does not give the enemy the opportunity to catch its breath. It declares thus that it is the revolution of a whole population whose roots are striking deep into the land and whom the schemes of the occupier and invaders will be unable to deal a blow to.

During and before the 'Id al-Adha, the enemy dispatched new and more numerous forces into the occupied territories and imposed a strict siege on the cities and camps, especially Jerusalem. It wants Jerusalem as its capital and is concerned about keeping the peace and security there. Our people in the occupied territories do not hold back any sacrifices to make Jerusalem the symbol of steadfastness and resistance.

In truth, the extremist enemy government headed by the terrorist Yitzhaq Shamir is going through a real dilemma. It was formed on the basis of aggression and extremism and includes those who call for Greater Israel, open war, and open borders. These Zionists expect the enemy government to quell the intifadah within a few weeks, evict the Arabs from the West Bank, relocate the immigrant Jews in their place, and present the world with a fait accompli. However, the Shamir government finds itself in the situation of someone who is incapable of venturing into a dangerous adventure, the results of which cannot be predicted. This is because the international community, which knows very well the history of the Israeli prime minister and his terrorist record full of crimes. It equally knows the history of Sharon, Eytan, and other enemy hawks, as well as the bestial acts committed against humanity in Lebanon—especially by the latter two. This international community condemned from the very beginning the new Israeli government, warned against its polices, and called for seriousness and responsibility to confront Zionism and racism.

The leaders of Western Europe took the initiative in demanding an effective UN role in protecting civilian residents from the oppression of the Israeli occupation forces, and called for an international peace conference. This call is aimed, first of all, at the United States, which so far has prevented the convening of the international conference and chosen a policy of individual steps to satisfy the Zionist lobby. This policy collapsed, as we know, when Israel rejected the Baker plan.

Israel stands before two options—there is no third. Either it submits to the international will for peace, something it constantly rejects, or it dares a dangerous adventure that would lead the region to the brink of an explosion. It is totally clear and certain that our people under occupation will not budge an inch in their intifadah. They will continue to resist the invaders and the policies of eviction and judaization. It is clear that the Zionists have failed to find anyone in the whole world who will take the risk of covering up for their crimes when they commit wide-scale massacres in the occupied Arab territories. In fact, the international community might hasten to take practical measures to protect the civilian residents and dictate the international peace conference within the framework of the United Nations and its resolutions.

Proceeding from this, we say that the Shamir government is in a real dilemma. It made many promises, but it cannot keep what it promised without venturing into risky situations that might have negative repercussions on Israel itself. Therefore, the deeper the intifadah goes, the more it clings to national rights, and the quicker the Arabs support it materially and politically with their unity, the sooner Israeli expansionism and other projects shall be toppled and the will for a just and comprehensive peace shall triumph, thus retrieving Arab rights and land.

Afghanistan

Defense Minister Watanjar Visits Bagram Garrison

LD0407194190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Excerpt] General Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, minister of defense of the Republic of Afghanistan, visited today the units and subunits of the Air Force garrison in Bagram.

The military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] reported that the minister of defense of the Republic of Afghanistan, in congratulating the participants of a meeting on the auspicious 'Id al-Adha, recalled with appreciation the work and activities of the personnel of Bagram Air Force for the restoration of peace and realization of the policy of national reconciliation. He explained and specified the duties and responsibilities of the personnel under the present circumstances of the country. [passage omitted]

Keshtmand Leaves for Medical Treatment in USSR

LD0407183490 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, first vice president, left this morning for the Soviet Union for a medical check up and treatment.

Najibullah Receives Diplomatic Corps

LD3006191290 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, received this afternoon at the Presidency Headquarters the diplomatic corps of the friendly countries resident in Kabul, and briefed them about the recent developments in the Republic of Afghanistan. During this meeting, also attended by Ghulum Sarwar Yurish, head of the Presidential Press Affairs Department, esteemed president of Afghanistan gave necessary information to the diplomatic corps on the need to end the state of emergency, on the formation of a new government led by esteemed Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, on the holding of the Loya Jirga [Grand National Assembly], on amendments to the country's Constitution, and on the party congress.

Esteemed Najibullah said that in the basic report which was presented to the congress, the positive as well as the negative sides of the 26 years of activities of the PDPA were assessed openly and critically. Esteemed president of Afghanistan, addressing the diplomatic corps in Kabul, added that the second congress decided, based on the specific reason, to change the name of the party to the Homeland Party [D' Watan Gond].

(?Mobilization) of the Homeland Party and its new charter and policy is one of the main results of the congress. In the new documents the duties are specified of a party which has refrained from monopoly of power, has participated in power based on principles of democracy, and has established equal and mutual beneficial relations with other parties, and which will struggle to achieve its goals now and in the future, not by admdinistrative means but by political means.

Esteemed Najibullah added that in the new documents of the Homeland Party, in the sphere of politics, establishment of national sovereignty has been targeted based on the principles of democracy and parliamentary system, creation of understanding and national unity, and achievement of a state system on the basis of coalition of forces and national compromise.

At the end, His Excellency Edward Poradko, ambassador and plenipotentiary representative of the Republic of Poland and doyen on behalf of the diplomatic corps in Kabul expressed thanks and appreciation to esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan for receiving them and has given them necessary information. On behalf of himself and the diplomatic corps in Kabul, he congratulated the election of esteemed Najibullah as the chairman of the Homeland Party.

Stinger, Blowpipe Missiles Purchased From Rebels

LD0507165590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] On the basis of Decree No. 204, dated 10 October 1987, the organs of the Ministry of State Security recently purchased one U.S.-made set of Stinger surface-to-air missiles, and one Blowpipe-type surface-to-air missile from the armed opposition groups in the surroundings of [name indistinct] District, Nangarhar Province.

According to BAKHTAR's military section, the purchase price of these missiles was paid to the other side in accordance with the decree.

India

Reportage on Tense Situation in Kashmir Valley

High Priest Calls for Self-Determination

BK0407112290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1055 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Excerpt] New Delhi, July 4 (AFP)—Kashmir's teenaged Moslem high priest, delivering his first 'Id sermon before thousands of faithful, called Wednesday [4 July] for global pressure on India to bow to Kashmiri demands for self-determination.

"Every child in Kashmir today is fighting for self-determination, which is our birthright," Mirwaiz Maulvi Mohammad Omar Farooq told an estimated 60,000 people who packed the Jama Masjid in Srinagar, his spokesman said. The 16-year-old mirwaiz succeeded his father, who was slain May 21 by unknown gunmen.

He appealed to the United Nations and the superpowers to "put pressure on the Indian Government for a lasting solution," spokesman Syed Rehman said by telephone from Srinagar.

The Kashmiris' right to self-determination should be recognised if peace were to be restored to the strife-torn valley, the mirwaiz reportedly said in his speech on 'Id al-Adha, which marks the end of the hajj pilgrimage. The high priest said that Kashmiris wanted peace and friendship between India and Pakistan, which both claim ownership of the territory and have fought two wars over it since independence in 1947.

"The two countries can talk about Kashmir, but any solution to the conflict must involve the Kashmiris," Mr. Rehman quoted him as saying, referring to talks due later in July between the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan.

The spokesman said Wednesday's congregation was the largest ever at the Jama Masjid in Srinagar, Kashmir's summer capital. Moslem militants fighting for Kashmir's secession from India had asked people to congregate on the Idgah grounds Wednesday, but Mr. Rehman said the venue had to be changed because of overnight rain that flooded the vast area. He said the city was calm, with hundreds of paramilitary troops keeping a high profile after intelligence reports that the militants were planning a new offensive on 'Id al-Adha.

The curfew was relaxed as usual for 12 hours beginning at 7:00 a.m. [passage omitted]

'Top Terrorist' Arrested

BK0407160790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, the security forces today arrested a top terrorist in Srinagar and recovered the biggest ever haul of smuggled arms at his instance [as heard]. According to an official spokesman the arrested terrorist was the so-called chief area commander of an underground terrorist outfit and was wanted in several cases of terrorist crimes. Interrogation of the arrested terrorist led the security forces to a place near Bandipura from where 20 AK-47 rifles with 6,900 rounds and 49 magazines, 23 hand grenades, 19 detonators, and 11 kg of explosives were recovered.

The situation otherwise throughout the valley remained peaceful today.

PATRIOT Editorial

BK0407091090 Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Jun 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Violence in the Valley"]

[Text] Violence is escalating in the Kashmir Valley. What is quite disconcerting is that killings continue to paralyse life despite the presence there of an adequate security force. Recently, the Pak-trained Kashmiri subversives used rockets to attack CRPF jawans [Central Reserve Police Force troops]. The challenge to the country's integrity being faced in the Valley is indeed very serious and the tasks before the Government and the security agencies are complicated by the open encouragement and help given by Pakistan to trained terrorists. It is natural to further strengthen and beef up the security agencies especially as attacks on the para-military forces have increased. Without training and material support from across the borders, the terrorists would not have been able to engage in the scale of violence they are at present able to do. There is enough evidence to suggest that Punjab terrorists and their Kashmiri counterparts are working in collaboration with one another. Reports suggest that the arms and ammunition being made available to anti-national forces in the Valley in part are supplied across the Pakistan-Punjab border. The Punjab border has been easy to infiltrate. When there is enough pressure on the Kashmir side, the Pakistan-trained subversives use the Punjab route to smuggle arms into the country. While border security has been further tightened and number of intruders have been nabbed or killed, the flow of arms and ammunitions as also of trained subversives continues to the Valley. The infiltration of subversives from across the Line of Actual Control is less easy, though by no means infrequent. Army contingents have moved in Srinagar to assist the para-military forces in the wake of the stepped-up terrorist violence in the city. While deployment of army contingents is desirable when the exigencies of the situation so demand, as far as possible, the use of troops against urban terrorists should be avoided. The situation needs to be handled with firmness, extreme caution and also restraint. The escalation of violence also underlines that the assertions of some Central Ministers who considered the situation to be improving were premature. Pauses in violence should not be seen as improvement.

Militants' Threats Empty Roads

BK0507145090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1402 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Jammu, India, July 5 (AFP)—Civilian cars stayed off roads in the Kashmir Valley Thursday [5 July] as motorists bowed to death threats by Moslem militants fighting Indian rule, state traffic police said here. Only government-owned and mass transport vehicles were on the valley's roads. Private traffic ground to a total halt, underlining the success of the first day of the traffic-strike call, police said.

The outlawed Jammu and Kashmir Students' Liberation Front (JKSLF), youth wing of the main pro-independence party, on Tuesday [3 July] ordered owners of light vehicles—including cars, vans and jeeps—to stay off the roads for a month. Violators would be shot, it warned in a statement issued in the summer capital of Srinagar, urban hub of the anti-Indian campaign. The group gave no reason why it wanted the roads cleared.

Exempted were cars using the 320-kilometre highway between Srinagar and Jammu, the winter capital lying to the south of the valley, the only supply route linking Srinagar with the south.

With private transport disappearing, vehicles used by administration and security officials would be more vulnerable to attacks, and it would also help the militants avoid hitting civilians, as has happened before, observers said. They also said it would affect operations by national security guard commandos working undercover in plain-clothes and using civilian vehicles, who witnesses said have been using hit-and-run tactics to arrest suspects.

The commandos have nabbed at least 50 militants in recent days, including one using the alias Bittu Karate, an expert in martial arts wanted in connection with up to 30 killings, sources said.

The halt in civilian traffic followed another successful militant call to state government employees for a "pen down" strike to protest alleged atrocities by security forces.

The secessionist campaign led by Moslem militants in Kashmir has taken more than 700 lives so far this year, and has turned into a mass anti-Indian upsurge, according to some observers.

Valley Declared 'Disturbed Area'

BK0507161190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir governor has declared the entire Kashmir Valley and the 20-km border belt in the districts of Poonch and Rajaori in Jammu Division as disturbed area. A notification to this effect was issued in Srinagar a short while ago after the governor promulgated the Jammu and Kashmir Disturbed Area Act, assuming to himself the power to declare any part of any district in the state as disturbed area.

The act authorizes any magistrate or police officer of the rank of a subinspector and above to use force to the extend of firing against any person indulging in any act which can result in serious breach of peace. The act also authorizes those officers to destroy arms dumps, fortified positions, or arms training camps, or a hideout of an armed gang or absconder wanted in any offense.

Gunbattles Erupt

BK0607085490 Hong Kong AFP in English 0828 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] Srinagar, India, July 5 (AFP)—Moslem militants and security forces traded gunfire in Kashmir's capital on Friday, turning areas of downtown into battle zones and leaving at least one person dead, witnesses said. The battles erupted a day after the Kashmir administration armed itself with sweeping powers to combat the secessionist movement.

One woman was wounded in the crossfire and died on the way to hospital, official sources said, adding that three troopers of the paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) were injured.

The witnesses said areas of downtown Srinagar, urban hub of the secessionist movement, resembled a "battlefield" as firefights raged at several points during a 12-hour curfew break which began at 7:00 A.M. (0130 GMT). Snipers were shooting from "hidden positions" and security forces were returning fire, they said.

No further details were immediately available on the incidents, which came as Federal Home Minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed met state administrators here for a review of the situation.

On Thursday [5 July], the Jammu and Kashmir state administration declared the entire Kashmir Valley a "disturbed area" and assumed extraordinary powers to tackle a worsening militancy. The administration led by Governor Girish Saxena armed itself with powers to make searches and arrests without warrants and curb the press.

The "disturbed areas act" also empowers a magistrate or a middle-ranking police officer to open fire or "use force even to the extent of causing death" without permission from higher authorities.

In addition to the four worst-hit Kashmir Valley districts, the proclamation covers Srinagar and a 20-kilometre (12-mile) wide area along the line of control with Pakistan and the Moslem-majority Districts of Punch and Rajauri in the Jammu region. The line of control was drawn up at the end of the third and last war between India and Pakistan in 1971 and separates parts of Kashmir held by the two countries, which both claim Kashmir as their own.

Civilian cars and other light vehicles stayed off the valley's roads for a second straight day Friday in response to a call by the youth wing of the JKLF, the Jammu and Kashmir Students' Liberation Front (JKSLF), official sources and witnesses said.

The JKSLF clamped the traffic "ban," ostensibly to avoid hitting civilian targets, increase the vulnerability of government officials and security forces and to preempt operations by commandos dressed in plain clothes and using civilian cars. It has threatened to shoot civilian motorists who dare to violate the directive.

More than 700 people have died so far this year in escalating violence linked to the secessionist campaign, which India charges is fanned by Pakistan. Islamabad denies the charges, but supports the campaign as a legitimate struggle for self-determination.

Minister Sees Foreign Conspiracy

BK0607130590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] The home minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, has said that the entire Kashmir Valley and 20-km border areas of Poonch and Rajauri in Jammu division

were declared disturbed areas only to check infiltration of Pakistan-trained Kashmiri extremists.

Talking to newsmen in Srinagar today, the home minister said there is a deep-rooted conspiracy hatched by some foreign countries to destroy Kashmir. He also announced that 22 people who were not involved in terrorist activities were released on the eve of 'Id by the Jammu and Kashmir government.

Earlier, the home minister held discussions with the adviser to the governor on steps to curb antinational activities in the valley.

Further Reportage on Sri Lankan Situation

'More Than 2,200' Refugees Arrive

BK0607095690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] More than 2,200 Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka arrived in Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu yesterday. This is the single largest refugee arrival on any particular day since the current war broke out between the government troops and the LTTE in the island-nation. With this, the refugee population in the Mandapam camp has crossed 7,000.

Commentary Views Indian Concerns

BK0507124190 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Commentary on "the Conflict in Sri Lanka" by N.C. Chaudhary, editor of AMITY AND SOLIDARITY]

[Text] The airdashing [as heard] of Sri Lankan Foreign Secretary Bernard Tilakaratna early this week and extending his stay in New Delhi for talks with Indian leaders is a welcome step. It demonstrates that the island government is sincerely attempting to match the grave concern of the Indian Government with the increased intensity of the conflict in Sri Lanka and the growing escalation in violence. Shri [Mr.] Tilakaratna has already had talks with External Affairs Minister Shri I.K. Gujral and the foreign secretary, Shri Muchkund Dubey. During his deliberations with the former, Shri Tilakaratna handed over a communication from his country's Foreign Minister Harold Herath.

It is gratifying that the Sri Lanka Government has taken initiative to keep the government of India informed about the sorry developments in the country. Shri Tilakaratna has reportedly assured Shri Gujral that the fight in Sri Lanka is against the terrorists and not against the Tamil community. The Sri Lanka Government is also alive to India's other interests, Shri Tilakaratna told Shri Gujral.

India's position vis-a-vis the conflict in the island country is crystal clear. It is one of attaching the utmost importance to the maintenance of ethnic harmony in Sri Lanka where the Tamils can live in peace and dignity, and this, the government welcomely believes, can be brought about through a dialogue among all parties concerned, leading to a political solution in which the legitimate demands and aspirations of Tamils are met within the framework of unity and integrity of that country.

In its anxiety to put a halt to large-scale killings, the Sri Lanka Government also endorses this approach. It is reportedly not averse to a negotiated settlement provided the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] ceases hostilities, restores captured police posts to the government, and releases the hostages.

The other prime concern is that of security to the Government of India. Shri Tilakaratna has reportedly assured during his talks that no longer the Pakistani and Israeli instructors are stationed in Sri Lanka nor was the Republic importing arms and ammunition from these countries. Instead, it was shopping from several other countries for arms on strictly commercial terms. To that extent, fortunately, Sri Lanka Government is conscious of India's sensitivities of security in the region.

New Delhi, and for that matter governments the world over, are anxious to combat terrorism spreading anywhere. India cannot shut its eyes to terrorism deepening its roots in the island next door. Aptly, it feels that continuing intensified violence raging for the past over two weeks will have twin adverse effects on the Indian soil. First, it will escalate the number of refugees stepping on the Indian soil to find shelter and arouse the sentiments in Tamil Nadu and further foul up the atmosphere in this country. Second, it will also encourage terrorism in this country, parts of which are already (?bled). It can ill afford to add Tamil Nadu on the list.

Nevertheless, the situation in the island is fraught with grave dangers where strafing of LTTE positions has been resorted to by the island government in retaliation to the fortnight-long siege of the historic Jaffna Fort where some few hundred policemen are being kept as hostages. In counterretaliatory measures, the LTTE has cut water supply and blocked food supplies, resulting in virtual starvation of the sieged. The strafing has also had its own repercussions. The Sri Lankan minister of state for defense and Cabinet spokesman, Ranjan Wijeratne, has admitted miscalculations in strafing of positions leading to some civilians killed and several buildings damaged. However, the fact that there are 5 lakh refugees, that too according to official count, sheltering in camps, churches, temples, and schools in different parts of northeast demonstrates the magnitude of the problem.

As staunch antagonist of terrorism anywhere in the world, India will not permit the LTTE to operate from its soil nor would it think of involving itself in the conflict even remotely, let alone accepting the responsibility of restoring peace in the island. The past experience has not been free from both bouquets and brickbats. Sadly, the Indian Peacekeeping Force, while in the island, had been branded as occupation army by the LTTE and asked to withdraw by the island authorities.

The immediate tasks that need attention of both sides during the talks are to bring down the violence and killings in the Northeastern Province and secondly, Tamils are not made to take to the boats. Giving this sincerity and seriousness on both sides, hopefully some formula to restore peace within the framework of the territorial integrity of the state will be evolved.

Government To Sign Ozone Protection Pact

BK3006052990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] More than 90 countries have reached an agreement in London aimed at worldwide ban on chemicals which have been damaging the earth's ozone layer. This will lead to the phasing out of chemicals such as chloroflourocarbons [CFC] within the next 10 years and speeding up the development of safer substitutes. A $240-million fund has been established to help Third World nations move away from the use of harmful chemicals.

India and China have agreed to sign the protocol on phasing out of chemicals destroying the ozone layer. The environment minister, Mrs. Maneka Gandhi, participating in the conference, said a favorable atmosphere has been created as a result of the agreement. She said the conference has accommodated the Indian concern over the urgent need for the transfer of technology to the developing countries for maintaining the ozone layer.

Fiji's Move To Impose 'Racist System' Decried

BK2806154090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] India has called upon the international community to oppose the move of the autocratic authority of Fiji to impose an abhorrent racist system in Fiji. The call was given following reports of the move by the Fiji Council of Chiefs to draft a racially discriminatory and undemocratic constitution there.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that the report confirms India's apprehensions that the authorities in Fiji have ordered the closure of the Indian mission in Suva because of this intention of imposing a totally unacceptable constitutional arrangement on the people of Fiji. He said the move will be detrimental to achieving stability and racial harmony in Fiji. The international community should therefore support the multiracial and multi-ethnic democratic forces in Fiji. The spokesman added that India supports a dialogue with the coalition and the authoritative representatives of Fijian people to draft a just and racially nondiscriminatory constitution in Fiji. This is the only way to achieve peace, stability, and racial harmony in that country, he added.

Congress-I Criticizes Government Foreign Policy

BK3006053190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] The Congress-I has criticized the government for permitting the Amnesty International to visit Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. A Congress-I spokesman said in New Delhi yesterday that it is an insult to the Indian democracy which is open and mature enough to devise its own checks and balances. The spokesman described the foreign policy of the National Front government as a directionless drift which causes disgrace to all. He said during its eight months in power, the government has been unable to provide a coherent and meaningful foreign policy.

Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission Resigns

BK0107155990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] Mr. Rama Krishna Hegde has resigned as deputy chairman of the planning commission. He sent in his resignation to the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, in New Delhi today. In his resignation letter, Mr. Hegde said since the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs [CCPA] is considering the Kuldip Singh commission report into the land deals in Karnataka, it is proper for him to resign, so that the CCPA can take the right decision on the report.

The CCPA met in New Delhi this afternoon and considered the commission's report. It directed the department of personnel to examine and process the report as per rule. The Kuldip Singh commission went into the land deals in Karnataka, when Mr. Rama Krishna Hegde was the chief minister.

Singh Accepts Resignation

BK0507032090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] The resignation of Mr. Rama Krishna Hegde, the deputy chairman of the Planning Commission, has been accepted by the prime minister. The finance minister, Professor Madhu Dandavate, has been asked to look after his work till a successor to Mr. Hegde is appointed.

An official spokesman said last night that the prime minister, who is the chairman of the Planning Commission, decided to relieve Mr. Hegde after getting a second letter from him requesting to accept his resignation. Mr. Hegde had submitted his resignation from the deputy chairmanship of the Planning Commission on Sunday last [1 July] to enable the cabinet committee on political affairs to objectively consider the Kuldip Singh Commission's report on land deals in Karnataka during his chief ministership.

In reply to Mr. Hegde's second letter, Mr. V.P. Singh said that he was accepting the resignation with deep regret and in deference to Mr. Hegde's wishes and high sentiments. Mr. Singh said he continued to feel that Mr. Hegde's being in office would not have affected in any

way the objective consideration of the Kuldip Singh Commission report. Mr. Singh further emphasized that he and his colleagues needed Mr. Hegde's sage counsel in the government.

Earlier, in a second letter to the prime minister, Mr. Hegde insisted that his resignation be accepted. Mr. Hegde pointed out that people have reposed confidence in the present government with the hope that values will be restored and high norms of public life will be lived up to.

Four 'Terrorists', Two Guards Killed in Punjab

BK0607074790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] In Punjab, four terrorists were killed in an encounter with the National Security Guards near Baltoha village in Tarn Taran District this morning. According to police sources, the encounter started in the early hours of today and continued for about five hours. Two National Security Guards personnel were also killed in the encounter.

Iran

Release of 'At Least One' Hostage Said Possible

LD0507223890 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The reports released in recent days denote that the issue of the release of the Western hostages in Lebanon has figured again and there is the likelihood of such a release as per statements by certain circles. Prior to those, two American hostages, Robert Polhill and Frank Herbert Reed, were set free last April. The groups that held these two U.S. hostages had declared that these two hostages were released in order to show the good faith and to take a move toward eventually closing the file of the hostages once and for all. In response to the efforts made toward settlement of the hostages issue and also with due attention to the humane aspect of the problem, these groups tried to take the Western hostages problem toward an equitable solution. These groups, after releasing the two U.S. hostages, announced that they expect a goodwill [gesture] from the other side and (?stressed) that the release of the two U.S. hostages to act as a factor for encouraging the other side, America, as well as its strategic allies, namely the Zionist regime and the West bloc to take a measure at least in the light of the existing sensitivity concerning the issue of the hostages in Lebanon for observing the people's rights especially those of the wronged Lebanese and Palestinians in the Middle East region.

At present many of the Lebanese and Palestinians are being kept as hostage by the Zionist regime. The Zionist regime has set up Khiyam Prison in the occupied region of south Lebanon and it is replete with Lebanese and Palestinian detainees. Also a number of other Palestinians and Lebanese are [word indistinct] Zionist jails within the occupied Palestine. Meanwhile four Iranians who were taken hostage by the Phalangist forces in Lebanon, according to comments of top officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran in (?recently) existing information, are still alive.

Obviously material and moral influence of Western countries, especially America and Britain, among the Phalangists and Israel is unlimited. These countries by bringing pressure and applying for influence, can take measures for the release of the Iranian hostages as well as the Palestinian and Lebanese detainees and as a response the goodwill shown by the groups holding the Western hostages in Lebanon can also take a reciprocal move.

Since the emergence of the hostages issue in Lebanon, regrettably the orchestrated propaganda of the Wstern mass media is constantly focused on the condition of the Western hostages. These media have so propagated the issue that it has overshadowed the state of Palestinian and Lebanese detainees for [word indistinct] other non-Western hostages. Even though paying attention to the condition of the Western hostages in Lebanon in view of the humane aspects of the subject is automatically considered a proper step, the deliberate disregard of the rights of other human beings, this is the rights of the Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims, is something impossible.

At any rate, reports and dispatches filed in recent days have gone to strengthen the likelihood of the release of at least one of the Western hostages. This news is perceived as an indication of good faith and naturally there is also an expectation from the other side that by applying its influence, it will pave the way for the release of the Lebanese and Palestinian detainees as well as the four Iranian hostages thus taking a step toward settlement of the hostages issue.

Velayati Envoy Delivers Message to Shevardnadze

LD0507140890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs director general in charge of Eastern Europe, who has been to Moscow as the special representative of Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati, met yesterday with Vladimir Petrovskiy, Soviet deputy foreign minister.

According to the IRNA report, in this meeting in which Mr. Velayati's written message to Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze was handed to the Soviet side, important international and regional issues, especially the issue of Afghanistan, were discussed.

Reportage on Tripartite Meetings in Geneva

Velayati Returns, Comments

NC0607070490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] After returning to Tehran last night, Foreign Minister Mr. Velayati, who had gone to Geneva for a meeting and talks with the UN secretary general and to participate in a tripartite meeting with him and the Iraqi foreign minister, described the outcome of the visit as significant.

In an interview with our colleague, Mr. Velayati said: This visit took place at the invitation of the UN secretary general, and after Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar's separate discussions with the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers and following assessments, a tripartite meeting with the UN secretary general present took place. Of course the reason for this is clear because the exchange of messages between the two countries on the presidential level and the direct and indirect talks made the grounds favorable for further understanding.

During this round of talks, the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq addressed each other for the first time; this was the manifestation of a rapprochement of the two countries' stands.

On the contents of the talks, Mr. Velayati said:

[Begin recording] [Velayati] The negotiating sides—we and Iraq—tried to show self-restraint in propounding controversial issues. The intention was not to hold substantive discussions. But the very essence of holding of such discussions was significant for two reasons. First of all, this was the first time for us to hold such a meeting in 15 months. Second, the exchange of letters between the presidents of Iran and Iraq may have made some people think that a solution outside [UN] Resolution 598 is being formed. Thus, the formation of such a session under the supervision of the UN secretary general and at a UN site, and the two sides' emphasis on the fact that no solution should be outside the framework of Resolution 598 and far from the supervision of the secretary general once again proved that even if negotiations apparently outside the supervision of the UN secretary general are taking place, this is not outside the framework of Resolution 598. We, as the Islamic Republic of Iran, have always insisted during this period that the UN secretary general be informed about the talks. And we should point out here that if the Islamic Republic of Iran were involved in the exchange of letters and messages between Iran and Iraq, one of the reasons was the UN secretary general's repeated advice that the two sides make efforts toward further understanding so that Resolution 598 can be implemented in a more friendly atmosphere. But definitely, we cannot imagine any path and any way to achieve a comprehensive, firm, and just peace outside the framework of Resolution 598.

During this meeting both sides emphasized that Resolution 598 should be implemented exactly as it is being done, that the UN secretary general's supervision should continue to be as it is, and that the two sides should pave the grounds for the UN secretary general's visit to the area in the near future and for his visit to both countries and maybe to some other regional countries.

It was agreed that the two sides' experts should remain in Geneva and continue their talks with Mr. Eliasson, the UN secretary general's special representative, and his other colleagues. This is exactly what happened. Now our colleagues are in Geneva and are continuing the talks.

Along with these talks, I participated in the session of the UN Economic and Social Council, which is one of the extremely important organizations inside the United Nations. This organization is among the few organizations for whose opening sessions the UN secretary general comes to Geneva from New York. He did the same this time too. At the invitation of the council, I participated as a guest speaker. The chairman of the session called for one minute of silence for the dear ones who were killed during the recent earthquake. I was the first speaker. The secretary general then spoke and stated that the United Nations will do its best to help in the reconstruction of the quake-stricken areas.

[Unidentified correspondent] Thank you. [end recording]

Kharrazi on Expert Delegation Meeting

LD0607093890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] The first round of talks between the expert delegations of Iran and Iraq with Jan Eliasson, the UN secretary general's special representative, was held in Geneva yesterday. At the end of this meeting, Mr. Kamal Kharrazi, the head of the Iranian delegation, told IRNA: In this meeting the methods for making use of the favorable current climate for the implementation of resolution 598 were discussed and the necessity of making use of this climate to realize practical measures was stressed.

Referring to the continuation of the expert delegations talks during the coming days, Mr. Kharrazi said: In yesterday's meeting, preliminary steps for following up the work of the peace talks were discussed.

Last week, the Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers in direct talks under the supervision of Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, supporting the role of the secretary general in the implementation of [UN] Resolution 598, once again emphasized that this resolution would be the only framework for contacts between the two sides.

Council of Ministers Allocates Quake Relief Aid

LD0507084990 Tehran IRNA in English 0733 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Tehran, July 5, IRNA—The Council of Ministers allocated rls. [rials] two billion (dlrs. 28.57 million) for settlement of survivors of the devastating earthquake of June 21 in northwestern Iran. The earthquake killed and injured 100,000 people, turned vast fertile lands into ruins and made over half a million homeless in Zanjan and Gilan Provinces. The sum is to be spent on supply of construction materials and reconstruction of the ruined areas.

Editorial Cites Khamene'i on Foreign Relief

NC0507110690 Tehran TEHRAN TIMES in English 28 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Leader Appreciates International Assistance to Quake Victims"]

[Text] Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i has officially thanked the countries which sent relief supplies to Iran's earthquake victims.

The earthquake that rocked Zanjan and Gilan provinces last Thursday morning was among the strongest quakes in the span of the last hundred years. The intensity of the jolt on one hand and the inaccessibility to the villages flung in a mountain region on the other shot up life and property losses immensely.

Fortunately the international community reacted with great sympathy and swiftly dispatched relief workers and provisions to help Iran in this hour of national grief and calamity. The international assistance has been of course made outside the framework of political relations of Iran with any one of the donating nations.

Iran's President Hashemi-Rafsanjani too welcomed the world's governments for their help (except South Africa and Israel) on the second day after the disaster.

Meanwhile, certain so-called hardline newspapers in Iran tried to once again look at the relief and related issues from a political angle.

By sensationalizing the issue these media tried to stop the government from receiving aid and reliefs from some Muslim and Western countries.

In fact these papers' failure to draw a line between a merely humanitarian issue and foreign help within international recognized norms and intergovernment political hostilities reflect their narrow-mindedness, and their closing eyes on realities.

Regrettably these very same papers even try to make their views look as compatible with those of the leadership and the president.

But Ayatollah Khamene'i's appreciation of all the donating nations, President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's acceptance of foreign aid in his last week's televised interview and appreciation of other officials prove these papers inaccurate.

Besides, is it ever conceivable that several large-bodied aircraft carrying relief supplies from countries such as the U.S., Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Egypt land at Tehran's airport without clearance from the most top-ranking decision-makers of the nation?

Reception of aid from abroad however can by no means in itself be taken as a sign of setting back from the revolution's principles and the nation's strategic policies.

Meanwhile, the same newspaper has through a faulty article confused Persian speaking readers. It mentioned two English dailies but failed to pinpoint the contents specifying to which one of the two the comments belonged to.

So much so the news agencies which did not have a chance to read the two English dailies have attributed to the TEHRAN TIMES what was said by the KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL.

The misguided article of the Jomhuri-ye Eslami not only does not fulfil the needs of journalism but has tried to start a disinformation campaign against our daily.

We, however, leave our readers to judge.

Editorial Says World Deserves Thanks for Aid

NC0507113390 Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 28 Jun 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Big Nations Are Not Formed Overnight"]

[Text] Calamities, natural and those caused by man, are undoubtedly unsolicited and bitter experiences for a nation. But it is a fact that big nations are not formed overnight.

Iran has had enough of both types of disasters. History tells us that the geographical position of Iran and its strategic importance in the region was the cause for it being the target of attack by its neighbors. Its natural resources attracted the world plunderers from all corners of the world. So much so that in the recent past it was ruled by a British installed puppet regime. After the World War II Britain was supplanted by the United States.

This is not the place to give a list of man-made calamities suffered by the people of Iran in the past centuries. It would suffice to say that Iran has fought many wars, mostly defensive, with the Ottoman Empire, the armies of the Russian czars and the Afghans. Of course in the far past it was attacked several times by barbarian central Asian tribes such as the Mongols.

And very recently even a small nation, Iraq, started a war of aggression. Iraq fought a long and bloody war for eight years with the help of the West and East. That imposed war took a heavy toll in life and material. It was a calamity.

The tragic event of the 7th of Tir, 1360 (June 28, 1981), was another calamity that was caused by the stooges of the imperialist powers: the so-called Mojahedin-e Khalq, later known as the monafeqin (hypocrites) by the people of Iran. Eminent leaders of the Islamic Revolution, 72 of them, were murdered that night when a bomb planted by the monafeqin exploded at the Islamic Republic Party's headquarter in Tehran. Ayatollah Dr. Seyyed Mohammad Hoseyn, "not an individual but a nation," as termed by the late Imam Khomeyni (may God bless his soul), was one of the 72 martyrs.

Another atrocity of the monafeqin was the assassination of President Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i and Prime Minister Hojjat ol-Eslam Dr. Mohammad Javad Bahonar. Simultaneously prominent Friday prayer leaders throughout the country were assassinated by the monafeqin. Of course prior to these atrocities another foreign motivated faction the so-called Forqan group had eliminated the most valuable asset of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari.

As regards natural calamities, it can be asserted that Iran is one of the unfortunate countries which, again, because of its geographical situation has regularly undergone mishaps. Famines, floods and earthquakes occur in all parts of the country. The recent devastating earthquake is one instance of such undesirable events.

Thank God that the nation survived all these mishaps. It is rightly said that calamities play a positive role also. They bring out the hidden virtues of mankind. Without having to face the past misfortunes and disasters the nation of Iran today would not have been what it is—a nation that practically fought a long defensive war against all the enemies of Islam throughout the world.

The current calamity, it should be acknowledged in all fairness, has also shown that the same world which confronted Iran in some way or the other after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, has now kept aside all its evil designs it entertained about the Iranians and has come to their aid.

In other words the present calamity befallen the people of Iran has gone a long way in demonstrating the truth that basically man is not a wicked creature. Asians, Africans, Arabs, Europeans, Americans and all those who sincerely helped or offered to help Iran deserve to be thanked by the nation. It is true that nine years ago the dearest offspring of the nation, Ayatollah Beheshti, along with his companions, was martyred by the enemies of the Islamic Revolution. But can anyone assert that if the great man was alive today he would not have appreciated and thanked all those, who forgetting their past enmity, extended a helping hand toward Iran?

President Calls for More Women's Roles in Society

LD0507140590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] This morning Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani met with a number of basiji [mobilized] sisters who are students in religious seminaries, the families of martyrs, and the officials in charge of women's sports. He stressed: In an Islamic society, all necessary means exist for making women more active in their social lives. We should present women's activities as a symbol and a model to the world.

Referring to the role of women in the movement of the Islamic society, the president said: Fortunately, after the victory of the Islamic Republic, the women in our society were freed from the trap which the decadent Western culture had placed on the path of Muslim women and the course of their lives was corrected. However, this progress and these gains are not at a satisfactory level. We have expelled the threat of Western culture, but society should possess substitutes for satisfying the needs of society and of women. Women constitute half of our society, but there is no doubt that today the capability and work of women is not made use of as much as that of men.

Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed: In order to activate society and to speed up the movement of economic wheels within society, we are in need of a women's labor force. Stressing the importance of women observing Islamic morality in social life, the president added: The ladies can become philosophers, orators, scholars, Friday imams, [jurisprudents], researchers, and writers. Not only do these things not contradict chastity, they are a means of propagating chastity.

Addressing a number of sporting sisters who were present, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Sporting facilities should be provided for women, because the exclusive sports centers for ladies are not sufficient. However, in the sphere of sports, women should be present in international competition in the fields which are not prohibited by Islam.

In conclusion, stressing the importance of the active presence of women in social, economic, and cultural spheres, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the participation of women in the early days of Islam, especially the wives of the holy prophet—God's benediction and salutation be upon him and his kin—and asked the women of our country to present a new symbol and model to the world.

The Central News Unit reports that in this meeting a number of seminarian sisters from Rafsanjan, Tehran, and Shahr-e Rey, together with officials in charge of women's sports, the sisters participating in shooting matches in China, sisters from al-Zahra Academy, and a number of the families of martyrs and basiji sisters from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance, and affiliated organizations were present.

Shipping Link with Kuwait Inaugurated 2 Jul

LD0207220290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 2 Jul 90

[Text] The Iran-Kuwait shipping line was opened on Monday evening [2 July] as the first voyage began from the

port of Bushehr to the Kuwaiti port of al-Shuwaykh. A correspondent of the Central News Unit has dispatched a report from Bushehr in this connection, to which I draw your attention: The Val-Fajr-8 Shipping Line, which is in charge of transporting cargo and passengers in the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman zone, succeeded in establishing a new line from Bushehr to Kuwait with the capacity of transporting 300 passengers and 300 metric-tonnes of goods. In this same connection, the Bushehr-Kuwait shipping line was inaugurated this afternoon and the first sea voyage to Kuwait started.

The director general of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Shipping [company], commenting on the need to establish shipping lines between Iran and Kuwait, said: Thanks to the opening of this line, we hope to be able to reduce transportation costs, expand imports and exports and carry passengers at lowest cost, as well as attracting tourists.

More Sea Links to Open Soon

LD0307195590 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] Kuwait, July 3, IRNA—The sea link between Kuwait and Iran was reopened after nine yers with arrival of the passenger ship 'Iran-Hormoz 24' from the Iranian port of Bushehr at the Kuwaiti port of al-Shuwaykh Tuesday.

"Resumption of the sea link between Iranian and Kuwaiti ports is in line with consolidation of political and economic ties between the two countries," said the managing director of the Iranian Wa'l-Fajr-8 Shipping Ahmad Makhmali who arrived here on board the ship. He said that the Kuwait-Bushehr sea line was interrupted "due to the world arrogance conspiracies" and with its reopening the price of passenger tickets as well as the cost of transportation of goods to Iran will be considerably reduced.

Since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war in 1980, all sea links to Kuwait came to a halt to its proximity to the war zone and now it is the first time that Kuwaiti passenger ships can travel to a foreign country.

Meanwhile, Director General of the joint Irano-Kuwait Shipping Company Ahmad Dashti who arrived here on board the ship said the resumption of Kuwait-Bushehr sea line "will open a new chapter in sea links between the two countries." He told IRNA that other sea lines will soon be opened between Kuwaiti and all Iranian ports adding that sea travels between the two Persian Gulf countries will be increased.

In continuation of efforts to promote economic and cultural ties between the Islamic Republic and its Persian Gulf neighbours, a sea link between Iran and Qatar will also be established soon.

Karrubi Receives New Syrian Ambassador

LD0207191490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Jul 90

[Text] In a meeting with the Majles speaker the new ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic reaffirmed the sympathy that Syria's nation, government, and parliament feel in the wake of the earthquake in our country, and he briefed Mr. Karrubi on his country's readiness to expand regional cooperation and strengthen bilateral ties, particularly parliamentary relations.

The speaker of the Islamic Majles in return expressed gratitude for the concern and sympathy of the international community with the nation and the government of Iran, saying: The sympathy of the nation and the government of the friendly country, Syria, has been a comfort [govvat-e qalb—literally "stout-heart"] to our people. Although our government and our kind and selfless people rushed to help the earthquake victims immediately after the tragedy, nevertheless the expression of international sympathy, particularly by the Islamic states, was highly valuable and comforted us.

Mr. Karrubi referred to the two countries' overall cooperation as fruitful, and stressed the importance of Syria's responsibility and its significant role in the struggle against Zionism and the immigration of Jews to the occupied territories. He expressed hope that through efforts and cooperation of Iran and Syria, the discord and factional clashes in Lebanon will come to an end.

U.S. Compensation for Airbus Downing Urged

LD0407091290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] On the anniversary of the tragedy of the U.S. downing of an Iranian passenger Airbus in the Persian Gulf, officials of our country's airlines at a news conference yesterday asked for condemnation of this crime at the Hague International Court and payment of compensation by the U.S. government. Here is a report from our correspondent:

[Correspondent] The Islamic Republic of Iran, by pursuing its complaint at the court of The Hague, is decisively demanding condemnation of the U.S. crime of downing the Airbus and payment of compensation to the families of the martyrs of this tragedy. The head of the State Civil Aviation organization, at a news conference attended by domestic and foreign reporters at Bandar-e 'Abbas airport, while announcing the above, explained the steps taken at international forums. He said: The United States has not yet paid any compensation to the Islamic Republic of Iran or the families of the 3 July martyrs and we are still pursuing this matter.

Also during this news conference, the managing director of the airlines, replying to a question as to whether the United States had any reasons to deliberately attack the Iranian plane, said: Investigations show that the U.S. action was deliberate. Mr. Shafti added: Our equipment is now perfect

and the passenger airlines of the Islamic Republic of Iran are fully compatible with international standards and ready to serve the people; however, we stand beside the families of the martyrs in demanding condemnation of the United States at the court of The Hague.

I would like to add that on the anniversary of the Airbus tragedy and the anniversary of the martyrs of the passenger airliner downed by the United States over the Persian Gulf in 1988, glorious ceremonies were held at the Shahid Chamran Club in Bandar-e 'Abbas with participation of the families of the 3 July martyrs.

Mohtashemi Elected Interparliamentary Group Head

LD0407155390 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Tehran, July 4 IRNA—Majlis deputy from Tehran Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi was Wednesday elected secretary general of the interparliamentary group for two years replacing Ahmad 'Azizi.

A new interparliamentary council today also elected Majlis deputies Najafqoli Habibi, Sadeq Khalkhali, and Mrs. Gohar-Osh-Shari'a Dastgheib as chairman of the council and its first and second deputies respectively. The new elections for the interparliamentary group total 15.

Also, Majlis deputies Asghar Nowruzi, Majid Dabestani, and Abbas-Mirza Aboutalebi were elected as first and second secretary and treasurer respectively.

The Interparliamentary group of the Majlis whose articles of association was ratified in 1983 is administered by a council of 15.

*RESALAT Report on 23 May 90 Majles Session

90AS0110A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 24 May 90 pp 5, 9, 11

[Text] Legal and Majles Division:

At yesterday's public Majles session, which convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Karrubi, discussion continued on the proposal to divide responsibilities in the agricultural sector.

The final opponent to the proposal was Mr. Herati, Sabzavar deputy. During his talk he said: I am surprised that some supporters of the proposal, in view of the fact that their proposal has undergone fundamental changes even in its principles and central points, are still defending it. What are they defending now? This in itself is worthy of discussion.

He then added: What is undeniable with respect to the Reconstruction Jihad is that two basic issues and areas of responsibility must be delegated to them. (1) The matter of rural development. (2) The matter of pastures and livestock. In rural development, the Jihad has both expertise and experience. Their personnel are trained, and in this regard they are the most concerned and committed personnel in the country. Unfortunately, however, in this proposal, with those basic changes the commission made, the matter of rural development has actually been taken away from the Jihad. The second point is the matter of pastures and livestock, which must be delegated to the Jihad, and in this regard unfortunately the matter of livestock has actually been ignored, and the matter of pastures has been submitted as a customs matter, and in view of the disastrous fate that has befallen our pastures during these past 12 years or so since the triumph of the revolution, there is no doubt that the matter of pastures needs an around-the-clock Jihad and ceaseless effort, and this cannot be done by anyone but the dear ones of the Jihad.

Mr. Herati discussed the problems of this proposal. He said:

The first point is the matter of livestock, which is an inseparable issue from that of pastures. Yet the proposal makes no mention of the matter of livestock. It is not clear to us to what date this issue has been deferred, and what its position is. The second point is that they have turned over the matter of water to the Reconstruction Jihad. Of course, the brothers of the Reconstruction Jihad are not remiss in any way, and are skilled and capable contractors, but in the matter of water design and supervision, it is in no way advisable to assign this responsibility to the Reconstruction Jihad. Of course, perhaps, God willing, based on experience, expertise, and awareness they may acquire in the future, we will be able to delegate the matter of water to the dear ones in the Reconstruction Jihad, but it is in no way advisable to do so now. Why? Because just a few months ago in the first council you approved the Water and Sewage Company and authorized the Ministry of Energy to assume responsibility in this regard. It is not right that we enacted something a month ago and now we suddenly come to turn it over to another organization. In this connection, while unified management in the nation's water is necessary, decisive and unavoidable, and fortunately there is a dear member of the Reconstruction Jihad at the head of the Ministry of Energy who will certainly strengthen and intensify these water measures and plans. The next issue is that of rural industries. One of the things in which we have a basic belief can prevent emigration, for 70 percent of the emigration is due to lack of income. The gentlemen came and divided the rural industries and turned them over to the Ministry of Industries. That ministry says: I do not have that capability. I work on large plans and projects. This task belongs to the Reconstruction Jihad, and the capability for it is in their hands. The next point, which is quite interesting, is that they have found a home for the Tribal Affairs Organization, and they want to turn it over to the Ministry of Agriculture. You know that tribal problems include service problems, housing, and welfare. What does the Ministry of Agriculture have to do with services, housing, and welfare? I don't know what connection exists between the Tribal Affairs Organization and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Eshaq Jahangiri (Supporting)

Mr. Eshaq Jahangiri said in support of this proposal: The provisions of the Five-Year Plan provide that by the end of the plan some of the basic agricultural crops are to achieve self-sufficiency, and we all know that every year much of the foreign exchange obtained from the nation's oil revenue is spent to import agricultural crops. All four of the present and former ministers of agriculture and the reconstruction jihad attribute the current agricultural bottlenecks to the failure to designate the responsibilities of the organizations that work in the agricultural sector.

Continuing, he said: The minor differences between the proposal by the deputies and the bill submitted by the government can be resolved in the second council. There is no need to reject the deputies' proposal in favor of the government's bill. If the government believes in defining responsibilities in the agricultural sector, it must not oppose this proposal. The government's proposal will be set forth in the second council as the basic proposal, and it certainly merits discussion so the Majles can vote, and the Majles will indeed vote. The chief problem with presenting the government's bill is that it is a single-urgency motion, and it is possible that proposals concerning it will be approved without study and careful consideration. It is even possible, God forbid, that it could be approved contrary to the view of either the government or the Majles, and we will both regret it.

The Government Representative

After views were given by opponents and supporters, Mr. Mohajerani, the government representative, spoke. He said: The proposal in the Majles is quite similar to the government bill with respect to the division of responsibilities between the Ministry of Reconstruction Jihad and the Ministry of Agriculture, but there are several very important points in this framework. First, our discussion is not about values. We are not concerned about the domain of management or the right or wrong of the work of any of the organizations, or how well the Reconstruction Jihad or the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Agriculture work. Therefore, in reality this task is one of dividing unified management. It is true that the Reconstruction Jihad is more energetic and zealous, but this does not mean that organizations such as the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Energy cannot do a good job. The next point is the organizational question. I believe that one of the reasons our agriculture, which of course includes the reconstruction jihad, has not achieved the necessary growth and expansion over the years is the mixture of organizations. Since the year 1346 [21 March 1967-20 March 1968] we have never allowed an independent organization to be in charge of agriculture, and every day or every year there has been some kind of organizational disarray in this sector. Continuing, he added: At the beginning of 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] we have in practice based the government's programs on the Five-Year Plan and we have actually treated the Five-Year Plan, in the way it has been presented, as a framework of values, so that we organize all the measures, goals, and aspirations of the executive organizations in accordance with the Five-Year Plan. We are faced with the Five-Year Plan, whose first year was 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990] and the year 1369 is one of its parts, and a very important one, with an organizational change which we support.

Mr. Mohajerani also made the point that dividing the management of water and electricity will have negative consequences. He said:

We have always viewed water and electricity alongside each other. The experience we have with regard to the methods of nations who actually derive some electrical power production from water is that they always saw these things next to each other. In our country, out of about 8,000 megawatts of electrical power produced in the national network, 2,000 megawatts, or 25 percent, is hydroelectric power. On the one hand electricity is actually an important means and implement in industry, social services, and agriculture, in such a way that we must take note of the consequences of this division. With regard to dam construction it must be said that if the work is done by the Ministry of Energy as provided in the Five-Year Plan, it will serve to interrupt this entire measure. Therefore the government is completely opposed to the division of the Ministry of Energy. In reality, the division of the Ministry of Energy will not only have a destructive effect on the work, but we know it will create a risk to the nation's administration in industrial electricity and in the electricity needed by the people. This is something that will amount to dissolution of the Ministry of Energy.

Chairman of the Special Commission

Mr. Rowhani-Niya, the chairman of the special commission, defended the general proposal. He said: Since the year 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987], 14 motions, bills, and official proposals have been presented to the government, the Majles, and the nation on the fate of the Reconstruction Jihad, agriculture, and water, and this general proposal includes all of them. Here I defend the Reconstruction Jihad and the Ministry of Agriculture. What I am saying is that everyone, whether in favor or opposition, has spoken. The question is, in the end, must we designate responsibilities? Ultimately, is the Reconstruction Jihad to become involved in the matter of agriculture or not? The respected government representative says that since 1346 there has been no unified management of agriculture, and for this reason we are saying that today we must designate responsibilities.

He then said: The gentlemen are saying that approval of this proposal would bring loss to the country. I say that to prevent this loss you must come and designate responsibilities, and the only place for this is in the Majles. That is, if any damage is done to the country from this day on because of this failure to designate responsibilities, the Majles must be blamed, because it is you who sit and decide. Ultimately, someone must say where the Reconstruction Jihad is to get involved. If appropriate, let us say there is no need for the Reconstruction Jihad,

although in the 10 years of the revolution it has had a very good record and therefore such talk does not appear to be correct in any way.

At the end of his talk, Mr. Rowhani-Niya said: I ask that a vote be taken on the entire proposal, so that, God willing, there will be a designation of responsibilities for the executive organizations, and you will not allow the nation's capital to be divided in two any longer.

After Mr. Rowhani-Niya's remarks, a vote was taken on the entire proposal and it was approved by the deputies. The second item on the agenda for yesterday's public Majles session was the report from the First Council of the Education and Training Commission concerning the Purchase and Ownership of Rented Educational Sites Bill, and after comments from opponents and supporters the total bill was put to a vote and approved.

Under Article 11 of this bill, the Ministry of Education and Training is authorized, using banking system credits as given in Article 2 of this bill, to buy all the property it needs for its rented education, training, and administrative units, with the agreement of the owners.

Also in this session the report from the Second Council of the Foreign Policy Commission concerning the proposal to add the Majles to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Membership in International Organizations Law was presented and approved.

Based on Article 1 of this proposal, the Majles will be added to the list of organizations given in the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Membership in International Organizations Law enacted 15 April 1986 as a member of the International Parliamentary Union.

The next public Majles session was set for this coming Sunday [27 May].

Letter to President from 142 Deputies on Purchase of Domestic Livestock

To His Blessed Excellency, His Holiness Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the respected president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, peace be upon you.

We respectfully submit to his excellency that the project to purchase domestic livestock from the nation's breeders and tribes was one of the most successful projects to eliminate the lines of dependence and strengthen livestock breeders and tribes, carried out in the last two years by the National Meat Organization in coordination with the Iran Tribal Affairs Organization. Last year, with the implementation of this project, more than 2 million head of livestock were purchased. The price of meat remained stable, while the middlemen, who used to buy when the price was low and then sell at exorbitant prices, were cut out. The livestock breeders and tribes, because of the benefits of this project, which not only bought their surplus meat but also procured the feed they needed, became involved with their work and produced more. Now that it is the season to buy livestock from breeders and tribes, the necessary emphasis has not been given to this project. It is one of the goals of the sacred government of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Five-Year Plan, and in the plan's goals it states that the government must purchase surplus meat to strengthen livestock breeders and tribes and to cut economic dependence. So far, however, no definite decision has been made in this matter, and the latest measure approved by the respected Economic Council will not solve the problem. If last year's project is not carried quickly and very seriously, it is expected that the productive and deprived tribes and rural livestock breeders will suffer severe losses and face certain destruction. At the same time, since most of the tribes have taken out bank loans and repayment on the loans is now due to begin, the banks will not be able to collect on their loans because the surplus meat has not been purchased. Therefore, we deputies of the nation's tribal areas call upon that exalted official to order the respected Economic Council take the steps necessary to buy the five million head of surplus livestock from the nation's tribes and livestock breeders without wasting any time.

'Ali Mohammad Gharibani, Ardebil Deputy: Slaughtering Muslims, Destroying Blessed Graves, and Plundering the Prophet's Shrine Is the Established Practice of the Saudi Family

The first pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Mr. 'Ali Mohammad Gharibani from the Ardebil electoral district. He began his talk with greetings and praise to the pure soul of his holiness the imam (peace be upon him) and the exalted leader. He said: The esteemed Prophet of Islam says: The winds of truth are blowing these days, listen well to these times, understand such winds.

The imam was a breeze that blew over our land and over a world dark with oppression. He brought Islam and humanity to life, teaching life with glory and brave struggle against imperialism and the worship of power and wealth. Happy are those who lived at this time and who were renewed and found another life in the gifts of this divine wind, and who lost their lives and hearts seeking to maintain its values. The imam came and went. Every moment of his life the imam explained the lives of the imams and the saints (peace be upon them). We heard about the patience of 'Ali (peace be upon him), but we saw the patience of the imam. They recited the cries of Hoseyn for us, but we heard it from the imam's throat. We read the story of the companions of Hoseyn (peace be upon him), but we saw the companions of the imam being tortured and bombed at the fronts, at liberated Khorramshahr and in the alleys of Palestine and Lebanon. We read about Palestine and Nakesin and Marqin in books, but in the age of our great imam we saw them in the form of worshippers of power and wealth, monarchists, the Hojjatiyehs, the hypocrites, the movements, and the self-prostituting liberals, who were and are the playthings of the great Satan America. We read the will of 'Ali (peace be upon him), but we saw it explained in the imam's will.

He praised all those who worked to build the imam's pure grave (peace be upon him) so that this great and luminous grave would be a shrine throughout history for those of the house of God who love freedom, and an inspiration for the brave combatants and mobilization members. He added: The imam who revitalized the pilgrimage of Abraham and Hoseyn and who made eternal the cry of release from polytheists that rang in Mecca after the Prophet of God, and it was because of this very pilgrimage that Iranian pilgrims were slaughtered like pigeons in a shrine by the filthy hands of Fahd and his American agents. Even though the slaughter of guests, the destruction of blessed graves and Islamic shrines, and plundering the shrine of the Prophet is an established practice of the Saudi family, the Saudi family and the whole world must know that the blood price of the martyrs of the shrine and for violating the sanctity of the Kaaba and the Koran cannot be paid in American dollars. Although retaliation is partial retribution for those who violate the shrine, the blood price of our martyrs is the cry of release from polytheists and death to oppressors, and if the atheists of the world keep the doors of the shrine closed for long years against those who love the pilgrimage of Abraham, the Iranian Muslims will never exchange the empty Americanized pilgrimage favored by the Saudi rulers for the Haj of Abraham.

He added: Some people naively imagine that the leopard has changed his spots and that Fahd has awakened and become a mystic. Can one expect to have a committed understanding with usurpers of the shrine of God? Can murderers of the guests of God be considered Muslims? Will our cries for release from Fahd's bosses please Fahd? We must therefore realize and not forget that our enemies will appear in their various forms.

Gharibani noted: It has been a year since the imam was among us, but he lit a lamp on our path that is a great explanation of the Koran and Imam 'Ali's Nahj ol-Balagheh. The imam's divine political will delineates all the policies and directions of the right and the left, the straight path, the way of evolution for politicians, religious people, workers, educators, university people, revolutionaries, young, old and others, and nothing whatever is left out of it. The religious legality of our government, the three powers of government and the leadership of Muslim society are clear on these pages, and the criteria of truth are made clear. These luminous lines in their special form must be made into eternal law and enacted, and the executive officials must have the honor of carrying them out.

The speaker added: Tomorrow 24 May is dear Khorramshahr Day and a reminder of bravery, epic struggle, martyrdom, and manfulness. On this day our great imam praised our combatants as the saviors of humanity and divine justice throughout the world. May this great day be blessed for all the people of Khorramshahr and the combatants who took part in Operation Jerusalem and the liberation of Khorramshahr.

Continuing, the speaker offered condolences to the exalted leader of the revolution and all the Muslims of the world for the slaughter of the militant people of Palestine in the Zionist regime's latest heavy air, land, and chemical attacks. He said: Although the land of Palestine, the Khan Puns camps, the al-Borajaneh Tower, and others are red with the blood of the youth of Islam and will be, you must realize that these slaughters will be followed by the spiritual victory of Islam, because Israel's criminal agents illuminate and disgrace the despicable and savage face of the Zionist regime and all those who claim to fight Israel and the Arab kings and mansion dwellers. Those mansion dwellers imposed on Muslims must realize that the day they left 'Abd-al-Nasir alone, the day they they validated Camp David, the day they presented the Fes proposal, the day they attacked Islamic Iran, killed Palestinians, and validated the crimes of the Zionists, they were disgraced in the worst way. Oh Palestinians, you must realize that the day the imam was in exile and under stringent control, the day the field of martyrdom was red with the blood of our youth, the day they martyred our political and religious leaders, the beating heart of Islam validated and supported you, and today also the Islamic nation led by the exalted leader and all the Muslims of the nation are with you. You must struggle so that one day we will free Jerusalem as we did Iran's bloody city [Khuninshahr], Khorramshahr, and on the day of victory and struggle we will celebrate and shout death to America and death to Israel.

The representative of the people of Ardebil, concerning the nation's divisions and changes, asked Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the respected president of the republic, for the creation of a political center in Ardebil, and for him to issue personally an order to follow up on this. He added: Based on existing documents and precedents in the Ministry of the Interior and reports from officials in the affairs of the nation's divisions to the current minister of the interior, they have proposed that the Ardebil area be made into a province because of its annexation of nearby cities due to having a population of over one million, the political issues and the breadth of their strategic area. In a note the minister of the interior said this was a reasonable and logical proposal. He ordered the preparation of a bill for submission to the Council of Ministers. After the bill was prepared letter number 5360/3911 was sent to the prime minister's office, and it was registered number 1090 in the office of the Council of Ministers. The text of the letter is as follows:

In the name of the Almighty:

Council of Ministers of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

In numerous letters and petitions sent to the Ministry of the Interior, the residents of Ardebil have asked that the Municipality of Ardebil be made into a province. The subject was studied by experts in national divisions and reports from the expert sent to the region and contacts with residents of the Municipality of Ardebil, Meshkin Shahr, and other areas supported the creation of a province including the above municipalities with Ardebil as the

center. Enclosed is the aforementioned proposal to the Council of Ministers of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and please announce the result.

Minister of the Interior:

Unfortunately, due to the imposed war, this bill has remained in its preliminary stages, and to alleviate the region's affairs and the problems of the people with regard to management, the region was approved as an acting province and this was conveyed to the Ministry of the Interior, but in practice the Ministry of the Interior only announced that the governor's office is a subsidiary province. These changes immediately raised the expectations among the people for the governor's office, for this governor's office had no privileges and no new authority was given to it. This was disappointing and disturbing to the people. In this regard, I have personally and in a letter asked the respected president of the republic to look into this matter, and in letter number 99604 he has expressed agreement with the idea of making Ardebil a province and issued the necessary order. It is hoped, in that he has repeatedly given a favorable view in this regard, that an order of quick action will also be issued.

Elsewhere in his talk, the speaker said: It has been observed repeatedly that the newspaper RESALAT has tried with its headlines and articles to sow discord and promote pessimism in society, one day by distorting the words of his holiness the imam, one day by quoting a gentleman saying that in Islam we do not have the poor forming a battlefront against the rich and fighting them, while in contrast his holiness the imam said "It is the Koran that persuaded the Prophet of Islam to fight the capitalists constantly", another day they question figures beloved to the people and revolutionary personalities such as the Karrubis, the Ghaffaris, the Bayats, and the Mohtashemis by branding them, yet the people know these men well. They believe that Ghaffari is the son of the same martyr who said in the fearsome prisons of the idolater regime, "An enemy of Khomeyni is an infidel". It is the newspaper RESALAT that wrote "and long may he remain with the God of the Muslims" after his holiness the imam's name instead of a prayer in an advertisement on page 2 of its issue number 131, and met with the protests of the people, but it pays no heed to the protests of the people.

In conclusion, he condemned the slaughter of Muslims in Kashmir by the Indian security forces, and he offered condolences on their martyrdom to all the Muslims of the world.

Seyyed Jalil Seyyedzadeh, Bakhtaran Deputy: The Hezbollah Began the Path with Khomeyni and it Will Continue with Khamene'i

The government must clear away the undergrowth and save itself from executive bottlenecks, and it must increase its supervision, control, decisiveness, thinking, and planning.

Legal and Majles Department: Mr. Seyyed Jalil Seyyedzadeh, the Bakhtaran deputy, was the second pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session. In his talk he offered greetings to the martyrs of Islam, especially the oppressed martyrs of Palestine, as well as to the exalted leader His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i, and he commemorated the anniversary of the victory at Khorramshahr, the tenth anniversary of the formation of the Majles, and the anniversary of the passing of his holiness the imam (may his grave be sanctified).

He then said: Wherever there is talk of the Islamic revolution, whenever the cry of "God is great" is raised to the sky, wherever the cries of the oppressed Muslim people are heard, the flowering of thought, ideas, and the Imam's line will be seen. To whatever extent the pillars of oppressive rule have shaken, to whatever extent the despicable Saudi family has been disgraced, if the tricks and deceptions of the aggressors have lost effect and the distinctions between the Islam of America and the Islam of Mohammad (peace be upon Him) have been drawn, all of it is due to the clear line of our dear Imam. If cries of "God is great" split the skies from the minarets of the mosques in the Muslim republics of the Soviet Union after 70 years and if there are lovers of the revolution on that side of the rendezvous, they are all indebted to that great revolution that was formed by our dear imam. These secret divine blessings were all the result of the daily prayers of millions of lovers and seekers of God, who protected the imam for a decade with his nation through bitter and sweet events. In this decade, to the same extent that the rigid reactionaries, the pseudo-pious and those who live in comfort without pain were exposed, the idolaters, the hypocrites, and their ilk were disgraced. Today the nation of Iran has the valuable documents and the eternal will of the Imam for the future course of the revolution. Today the greatness of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its expansion depends on the implementation of the guidance and the proper propagation and explanation of the Imam's line. How beautiful is the statement by the exalted leader that "Khomeyni is the birth certificate of our revolution". So be alert lest the enemy disrupt our unity and solidarity, sow discord in the universities, and turn us against one another. The imam constantly emphasized that unity is the secret of the triumph of the revolution and the revolution. This unity is aimed at preserving the covenant with the Imam and extending the firm allegiance we have declared to the exalted leader. The enemies must realize that this is an unshakable covenant, and that the Hezbollah people will continue with Khamene'i the path that they began with Khomeyni.

He then said that to achieve self-sufficiency, the just distribution of wealth, and restoring to health the nation's economy one must act after coordination and careful study. He said:

All the factors in high prices and inflation must be studied and their origins must be understood. All of these unknowns must be put together, and a logical answer must be found by solving all these equations.

Changes in procedures do not always mean changes in the principles of the revolution. There was a time when government intervention in industry, trade, production, and distribution were wartime necessities, but today this important sector can be operated with the participation of the people, and the use and organization of unused capital and investment in production projects and sectors are necessities. Unfortunately, for many political and economic reasons, the service and brokerage sectors still have special appeal. The enormous capital that could be spent for production goes into brokerage, hoarding, imports, and smuggling, and the private sector makes greater use of this unfortunate and corrupt practice. Why do the people turn to limited partnerships and give these companies their savings without study and investigation, while interest-free loans, with thousands of premiums and propaganda, are disregarded? The answer is clear, because the percentage of profits on investment in limited partnership companies is several times more than that of the banks. Why don't we pay more for basic investments, with logical supervision and control, a proper system of taxation and cooperative sectors? With an eye to the future, an awareness of current problems, broadmindedness, and the experiences of the world of the East and the West, tens of large and small projects and livestock breeding operations, farms, industries, and highways with the support, supervision, and control of the government could be turned over to the non-government sectors.

The government must clear away the undergrowth and save itself from executive bottlenecks, and it must increase its supervision, control, decisiveness, thinking, and planning.

Mr. Seyyedzadeh then discussed the problems in his electoral district. He said: You all know that Bakhtaran is the rallying point for heroism, sacrifice, and bravery. It is no small and easily-overlooked price to endure eight years of affliction during the war and other events, terrifying scenes, to endure losses and morale setbacks and give martyrs and fighters. There are perhaps few people who can explain the oppression in this province, with the storms of rockets, the terrifying screams, the constant sirens, the cries of children, and the trembling bodies of old people. It proudly went through the hunger in the mountain passes, the homelessness and wandering in the rural areas, and threats of chemical bombs, all for Islam and love of the revolution. Now however, this region, after destruction, spiritual and bodily losses, shortages in education and training, economic backwardness, and suffering losses and damage, needs to begin with the revival of strong management so that it can create conditions for production, development, and prosperity as it guards the borders and watches for movement in the counterrevolution. It needs management that satisfies the people and inspires their confidence, creates conditions for their participation, and will bring about change in the education and training of the young generation, without association with broken lines and policies. This province, rich in mines, gold-laden earth, and favorable climate, needs to be reexamined. The attitude towards the western part of the country must be changed. More value must be given to the nation's borders, and the strongest executive and operational forces must be assigned there. Underground resources and water and rich reserves are not being used, to the point that about 5.6 billion cubic meters of water are being wasted and 3.8 billion cubic meters are merely going into Iraqi soil. A thousand wells have been dug and are awaiting the installation of equipment. Out of 900,000 hectares of arable land, only 100,000 hectares have water, although if the wells were equipped 550,000 hectares could be watered. With 1.8 million hectares of suitable pastures and forest, animal husbandry is still done in the traditional way with low levels of production. Livestock statistics show that sufficient efforts have not been made to expand the industrial livestock breeding units. A meat complex like the one in Fars Province has not yet been built by the banks. Farmers are so scattered and their plots are so small that sometimes plots are less than one hectare and they are scattered in 30 to 40 places in the province. It is a hardship for farmers and harmful for agricultural matters that investments have not yet been made in animal husbandry, and in everything from the sugar cube factory to the paper factory, and from the ne'opan and panir [as published] factory to the expansion of the textile industry, and the projects being carried out are faced with serious problems. Problems such as bread sometimes still torment the people in the worst possible way. Every year the people in this area cry for the distribution of kerosene, and they complain to obtain a few litres of kerosene, and every year we repeat the call for improved conditions. Discrimination in the distribution of basic goods among most of the provinces is still a matter that needs attention.

In conclusion, the Bakhtaran deputy expressed support for the government of Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani and called upon the respected Council of Ministers to attend to the problems in his electoral district soon, and to send a delegation to investigate.

Davud Haji Naseri, Zanjan Deputy: Amassing Wealth, Capitalism, and Big Capital Must Be Rejected and Condemned in All Three of the Private, Cooperative, and Government Sectors.

To commemorate the imam's memory is to commemorate the most revolutionary man in history in the modern age.

The third pre-agenda speaker at yesterday's public Majles session was Mr. Davud Haji Nasseri, the Zanjan deputy. He began by praising the victorious spirit of the imam of the nation (may God be pleased with him), the martyrs of the imposed war and their families, and praising the exalted leader of the revolution, His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i. He discussed the commemoration of 24 May, marking the victory at Khorramshahr. He said: By standing firm, a nation can achieve victory and attain high goals and aspirations, and genuine values.

Continuing, he added: On the one hand, we are on the eve of the first anniversary of the passing of the great leader and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and we want wide participation in the ceremonies marking the passing of the late imam of the nation, as well as the days of mourning for the imam (may his grave be sanctified), and to hold unequalled funeral ceremonies for that great leader of popular assemblies at the mosques of this unchanging rock of the Hezbollah. In reality our people must know that to glorify the Imam is to glorify the revolution, Islam, the government, the theology, theologians, the knowledge, the mysticism, the word, the philosophy, the ideas, and the aspirations of that dear follower of the house of glory, purity, and the divine prophets. To commemorate the memory of the Imam is to commemorate a prominent revolutionary personality of history, indeed the most revolutionary man of history in the modern age.

The speaker then discussed the views of the imam (peace be upon him) in his divine political will with regard to the three government powers. He said: This is a good opportunity for me to read the high points of the will of the great leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the chiefs of the three powers.

(1) The legislative power: I ask all the deputies to treat one another with good will and brotherliness, and that they all try to prevent, God forbid, the laws from deviating from Islam. You must all be loyal to Islam and its celestial commands, to ensure your happiness in this world and the next. I ask and advise the Council of Guardians, both in the current generation and in future generations, to fulfill their Islamic and national duty with the utmost care and ability, and not to fall under the influence of any power, and to stop without any qualification the laws that are against the pure laws of Islam and the Constitution, and to take note of the exigencies of the nation, which sometimes must be governed under the secondary commands and sometimes under the primary commands.

(2) The judicial power: I ask the Supreme Judicial Council to take serious steps to put into order our judicial affairs, which were in a sad and unfortunate state under the former regime, and to remove from this important seat those who play with the lives and property of the people and who are not concerned about Islamic justice. I ask the council gradually to change the courts with persistence and earnestness, and to appoint judges who have the right qualities and God willing who trained earnestly at seminaries, especially the blessed Qom Seminary, instead of judges who do not have the required Islamic qualifications, so that God willing there will soon be Islamic judges throughout the country.

(3) The Executive Power: My will to the ministers in office today and in other eras is that not only you and the ministry workers but the budgets from which you derive your livelihood belong to the nation and you all must be in the service of the nation and especially the oppressed, you must work for the people, for it is forbidden to work in violation of responsibilities, and, God forbid, you may at times anger God. You are all in need of the nation's support. It was with the support of the people, especially the deprived classes, that victory was obtained and the hand of the oppressive monarchy was cut out of the country and its reserves. If you are one day deprived of their support you will be removed from office and like the oppressive monarchy's regime, instead of you the positions will be occupied by oppressors.

Based on this tangible truth, you must strive to attract the attention of the people and avoid non-Islamic and inhumane activity.

The speaker discussed the campaign against economic terrorists. He said:

The respected deputies, following the judicial and executive powers, must deal with those who cause economic disruption in the three private, government, and cooperative sectors, thereby taking the rights of the weak from the strong. If amassing wealth, capitalism, and big capital are condemned and rejected, it must be this way in all three forms and sectors. We must not condemn capitalism in the private sector while failing to do so in the government sector, or vice-versa.

Aren't those who had nothing materially early in the revolution and have now, through the use political influence and the abuse of power and employment, become millionaires or indeed billionaires, economic terrorists, and violators of the people's system of livelihood?

Shouldn't these people have their accounts settled and be tried and punished, and shouldn't Islamic justice be applied to them?

Our people will support and validate every measure and activity taken by the Majles, the government, and the judicial power aimed at achieving social and economic justice.

The representative of the people of Zanjan then discussed the brave and decisive measures taken by the respected chief of the judicial power. He said: I support the brave and decisive steps taken by the respected chief of the judicial power, His Holiness Ayatollah Yazdi, in dealing with social-administrative and cultural and economic corruption, and I ask him to deal as decisively as possible with this corruption, and with the cooperation of the government and his trustworthy colleagues in the judicial power, God willing, all the corruption and its effects will be changed to useful interests and effects, and they must know that they are supported by the exalted leader, the nation of partisans of God, and the committed Majles deputies.

Addressing the government and the executive power, he said:

Some of our administrative and executive problems in the country, especially in the provinces, are caused by non-native officials and executive officials in various parts of the country. This matter appears simple and unimportant, but for various reasons I say that when a non-native general manager, a governor-general, or a

governor is assigned and sent to a municipality or a province, that respected official has no kind of understanding about that region, the individuals and forces, the details of the people's culture, and sometimes their language. Consequently a period of time must pass before a relative understanding will develop of the region and the people there, and in the interim individuals with an unknown level of commitment, along with flatterers and fawners, will jockey for position and proximity to him, and in this regard there will be no consultation with the representatives of the people, while appointments and dismissals will occur without the knowledge of those trusted and chosen by the people, while the representative of the people will only know that so-and-so was appointed and went to work as the official of some office and was sent to this or that province or municipality, hearing the news from the newspapers or even from the people, and this is not the correct and genuine method. Here I will read another paragraph from the will of the imam (may his grave be sanctified) as a reminder. The imam says: To the Ministry of the Interior, for all of future history I advise care in the selection of governors-general. They must choose people who are worthy, religious, committed, wise, and able to work with the people so that peace will prevail as much as possible.

I emphasize working with the people. If a governor-general or an official does not work with the representatives of the people, won't he be uncooperative with the people in the same way? And if he does not work with the people and is not humble towards them, won't he lose the support and backing of the people? And won't this be detrimental to the revolution and the government? I hope the respected ministers and executive officials will heed and confer greater favor upon the logical and lawful demands of the representatives of the people. Of course, a significant majority of the representatives of Zanjan sent a note to the president of the republic and the Ministry of the Interior listing cases of weakness and bad management, and unfortunately so far this has produced nothing other than promises and expectations. We hope that through the grace of the president of the republic, the waiting period will come to an end.

The representative of the people of Zanjan discussed the deprivation of the people of his electoral district. He said: I have announced repeatedly in this respected Majles that the municipality of Zanjan, despite being the provincial capital, suffers much deprivation, and that the Islamic government and its workers will make more serious and more real efforts and plans to reduce deprivation, restore social justice, and please the noble and Muslim people of Zanjan and the surrounding area.

Mr. Haji Naseri said: In conclusion, I will speak about our dear and militant brother Mr. Rafiqdust, respected president of the Foundation of the Soldiers and the Oppressed. Some people have consistently sought to weaken him, and I must say that through seven years of war he was head of the Ministry of the Revolutionary Guard, he was an old companion of the imam's, and has been supported by the exalted leader. Those who are raising the issue of the purchase and import of ties and maneuvering around it with propaganda must realize that this purchase took place under the previous management. Another issue is the unfortunate matter of some of the universities concerning the unprincipled way of dealing with a number of committed clergymen and the exalted leader's representative at Tehran University. While I condemn this sort of behavior, I vigorously support the exalted leader's representation at Tehran University.

*Airline Official Shafati on Airline's Problems

90AS0139H London KEYHAN in Persian
31 May 90 p 1

[Text] Despite the shortage of aircraft in recent years, the number of passenger trips has increased from 17 million in the 10 years before the revolution to 38 million in the last 10 years.

The above announcement was made to the press recently by Hoseyn Shafati, acting director of the Iran National Airways (Homa). This official mentioned the shortage of specialist manpower, the shortage of aircraft, and the lack of suitable airport facilities. He said: Most of the world's airlines are independently managed. The law establishing Homa also provides for this company's financial and administrative independence, but unfortunately this independence has disappeared over the years, and if this independence does not return to Homa, there is no hope of improving conditions.

Elsewhere in his news conference, the acting director of Homa gave organization and speed as the two important factors for the success of airline companies. He added: Unfortunately, the number of organizations at the nation's airports, especially at Mehrabad, have brought passenger movement to a standstill. The causes of delayed flights must be sought in this very matter, for all the groups must agree for one aircraft to fly, and the world's other airlines are not faced with such a problem.

Elsewhere in his news conference, Hoseyn Shafati said that half the nation's airports are unable to accept 70 percent of Homa's aircraft. He said: More than half the nation's airports lack the necessary facilities to accept Homa's aircraft at night.

*Confiscation of Narcotics Underscores Problem

90AS0139G London KEYHAN in Persian
7 Jun 90 p 2

[Text] Mirlowhi, acting commander in chief of the Islamic Revolution komitehs, announced last week in Hamadan that in the last 500 days (less than a year and a half) more than 41 tons and 800 kilograms of various narcotics have been confiscated within Iran.

Three months ago, Mirlowhi said in an interview that the narcotics confiscated by narcotics agents are a small part of what is imported or produced and distributed within the country.

Mirlowhi naively claimed that there are no new addicts in Iran and that this figure has been reduced to zero. He estimated the number of existing addicts at four million, but the regime only admits that there are one million addicts.

Nepal

Premier Chairs Meetings on Election Strategy

BK0407003490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1710 GMT 3 Jul 90

[Text] Kathmandu, July 3 (AFP)—The Nepali Congress Central Committee (NCCC) is holding closed-door meetings to plan an election strategy to counteract extreme-left communist groups, party sources said Tuesday [3 July]. The NCCC meetings were being chaired by Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, who is acting president of the party. Also present were Nepali Congress' senior leader Ganesh Man Singh, General Secretar, G. P. Koirala, and two senior ministers of the coalition government—Yog Prasad Upadhyaya, minister for home and communication, and Mahendra Narayan Nidhi, minister for water resources, land reform and agriculture, the sources said.

They said the committee was reviewing the overall situation in Nepal under the multi-party coalition governing Nepal since the abolition in April of the Panchayat (Council) system, which banned political parties for 30 years. Among topics said under deliberation were draft suggestions to the Constitution Recommendation Commission (CRC) concerning the political shape of the planned new constitution, and ways to solve the current controversy over whether Nepal, a predominantly Hindu kingdom, should declare itself a secular state.

The decisions taken are expected to be announced at Mr. Ganesh Man Singh's home after the conclusion of the deliberations, the second such NCCC meeting since Mr. Bhattarai's coalition assumed power 10 weeks ago, sources said.

NCP Warns of Unrest Over Constitutional Act

BK3006012290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1725 GMT 29 Jun 90

[Text] Kathmandu, June 29 (AFP)—The leader of the radical Nepal Communist Party (NCP) has warned the coalition government of possible unrest if an interim constitutional act in not enforced soon, a party source said Friday [29 June].

Leaders of the Nepali Congress party, the largest faction in the government, have said that such an act was unnecessary after King Birendra delegated all legislative and judiciary powers to the government last month. "Any demand for a constitutional assembly or an interim constitutional act is tantamount to a sinister plot to delay the forthcoming general elections" set for next May, top Congress leader Ganesh Man Singh told reporters Friday [29 June].

NCP leader Radha Krishna Mainali, while opening a provincial party branch on Thursday [28 June], said he was assured by the king that the interim constitutional act would be forwarded to him by the government, the NCP source said. He warned, as have other senior communist party leaders, that the Congress party should not undermine the strength of leftists in Nepal. Mr. Mainali said "revolutionary" people would not remain quiet if the interim constitutional act was not soon enforced, the source said.

The comments were the latest installment of an escalating war of words between the Congress party and its coalition partner, the United Left Front (ULF), and Nepal's communists.

A high-placed cabinet source said that at a Friday cabinet meeting it was decided to quash some of the clauses of the present constitution so that the government could function "freely and independently." Such a decision has not yet been officially announced. The present constitution is a remnant of Nepal's partlyess panchayat system which the king dissolved after 30 years in April.

Meahwhile, the chairman of the Constitution Recommendation Commission, Biswonath Upadhyaya, told the official RSS news agency that the drafting of the new constitution would begin from July 4. Mr. Upadhyaya said that the members of the commission have been visiting different zones and districts to collect people's opinions and suggestions for the new constitution. He urged political parties to enlighten the people on main issues concerning the constitution, including powers and functions of the parliament, the Council of Ministers and the judiciary and the process of electing representatives.

"It was unfortunate that instead of suggestions on such crucial issues, suggestions had dominated issues of community, language and religion," Mr. Upadhayay said.

"The political parties could play an important role in focusing attention on the main issues in the constitution.

"Opinion building on the balance of power among the executive, legislative and judiciary was never satisfactorily done," Mr. Upadhyaya said.

Commission sources say that 46-year-old King Birendra has already suggested to the commission that Nepal henceforth be a constitutional monarchy based on a multiparty democratic system of government.

Recommends Democratic Constitution

BK0607004690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1850 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] Kathmandu, July 5 (AFP)—The Nepal Communist Party on Thursday [5 July] recommended that the country's new constitution guarantee a multi-party democratic system, religious freedom and an independent judiciary. The pro-Soviet party, which has submitted its recommendations to a committee working on a new

constitution, also wanted legal guarantees for human rights protection and an executive accountable to the people, party sources said.

"The new constitution (should) make clear provisions on the powers, duties, autonomy and independence of the executive, judiciary and the legislature," the party said. "The government (should) be made responsible to the house, the king (should) be placed within the constitutional framework and ... sovereignty (should) be vested in the parliament and people," it added.

The Communist Party also suggested that the constitution provide for an election constituency of 100,000 people and ensure that parliamentary elections be conducted on the basis of one man, one vote. It also suggested that political parties give ten percent of their party tickets to women candidates for parliament and people from various communities, professions and cultures be represented in the house, the party source said.

Nepal currently has a coalition government that assumed power 10 weeks ago after a popular movement led to the dissolution of a non-party political system that had governed the Himalayan kingdom for three decades.

Buddhists Demonstrate for 'Secular State' Status

BK0107003090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1748 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Text] Kathmandu, June 30 (AFP)—More than 100,000 Buddhists staged a silent march here Saturday [30 June] with placards and banners demanding that Nepal be declared a secular state. Monks, nuns, women, children and some Tibetan monks living here marched through Kathmandu with signs that read "Hindu constitution limits democracy" and "Democracy survives only in a secular state." They later converged in a public meeting at an open air theatre.

The march came in response to growing pressure from Nepal's Hindu majority for the Constitution Recommendation Commission, which is to begin drafting a new constitution Wednesday [27 June], to declare the country a Hindu kingdom. Debate over the status of Nepal's minority religions has grown increasingly heated since the 30-year partyless Panchayat system was dissolved by royal decree nearly three months ago, with non-Hindus endorsing a constitutional separation of church and state.

One government minister, Sundar K. Malla, called for tolerance of minority languages and religions in Nepal, where over 90 per cent of the 18.5 million population is Hindu. Other speakers criticized the Panchayat government for declaring Nepal a Hindu state in the 1962 Constitution.

Pakistan

Commentary Previews Secretarial Talks With India

BK0107121290 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Jun 90

[Shakil Ahmad commentary]

[Text] Talking to newsmen after inaugurating the Ormara Airport, the prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, said on Thursday [28 June] that the forthcoming foreign secretaries meeting between India and Pakistan is a positive development in efforts to reduce tensions. The prime minister said that differences existed between the two countries on various issues. It was important that these were resolved through dialogue.

The fact that India has accepted Pakistan's proposal for talks showed that the two sides were positive in their thinking that the answer to the problems and differences could be found through talking to each other. The prime minister cautioned the people against expecting a major breakthrough in the initial contacts.

A spokesman of the Foreign Office confirmed on Thursday [28 June] that the Government of India had agreed to send a delegation to Islamabad for foreign secretaries-level talks on 18 and 19 July. The spokesman added that as a result of the latest consultation between the Governments of India and Pakistan, a second round of talks between the two foreign secretaries was envisaged to take place within a fortnight of the first meeting. Although a formal agenda for the proposed talks between the foreign secretaries of the two countries has not been announced, the scheduled talks are expected to cover a broad range of issues, including confidence-building measures designed to eliminate the real causes underlying the present tension between the two countries. Although New Delhi has expressed its aversion to discussing the Kashmir issue, which it considers as its integral part and therefore not subject to any discussion, it is expected that the V.P. Singh government would be able to resist pressures from its coalition partners and adopt a more reasonable gesture in resolving all the outstanding disputes that threaten peace in the South Asian region.

Pakistan has already proposed a number of steps for reduction of tension on the borders, including the withdrawal of troops to the normal peace time position. It is significant that India has agreed to open talks with Pakistan at this juncture. The Indian prime minister had [words indistinct] the position that no useful purpose would be served in opening talks with Pakistan and that Pakistan should stop providing training and sanctuary to terrorists. Perhaps New Delhi wishes to appear reasonable before the international community.

The ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] foreign ministers' conference is due to be held in Cairo on 30 July. Kashmir is on the agenda of the conference. India's agreement to conduct a dialogue with Pakistan should be

seen in that context. Obviously, the intention is to convince the ICO member states of its desire to settle differences with Pakistan across the negotiating table. India had banned the Amnesty International from Punjab and Kashmir. In response to American congressional pressure, New Delhi is ending the ban. These two events are placating world public opinion. Foreign journalists, however, are still not allowed entry into the occupied Kashmir.

As stated by the prime minister, it would not be realistic to pin undue hopes on the forthcoming talks between India and Pakistan. The fact that India has agreed to hold the talks is however significant. It clearly establishes the fact that the intensity and spontaneity of the Kashmir movement has caused a big dent in the obduracy and intransigence of the die-hard partners in Mr. Singh's coalition government. The removal of the hated governor, Mr. Jag Mohan, and the efforts to establish some form of representative government in the occupied valley are part of the Indian Government's deft diplomatic maneuvering. Islamabad will have to maintain a balance between caution and assertion of its principled stand on Kashmir in its forthcoming talks with India.

Paper Cites Kashmir Leader's View on Situation

BK0207105790 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 2 Jul 90 p 6

[Text] Karachi, July 1—Amanullah Khan, Chief of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), while defending the decision to announce setting up of provisional government of Kashmir has admitted that there are difficulties but "ultimately, we are going to achieve our freedom".

In an interview with monthly HERALD KARACHI, he said: "To my mind, the situation is ripe in favour of us. We have intensified our activities inside Occupied Kashmir, and you will see the results soon. The Indian government has used all kinds of methods, but has failed to stop the movement."

Answering a question, he said: We do not think the present Azad Kashmir government can help us in anyway". We have chosen a 24-member Cabinet, and have included Hindus and Sikhs living in the occupied territory. We are convinced that our provisional government is going to deliver the goods".

Mr. Amanullah said, "at this stage, the JKLF does not want to seek support from Islamabad for any recognition. I think we should first achieve sufficient support outside the country and prove our credentials, and then look upon the Pakistan government to recognise the provisional government of Kashmir."

He explained that the idea of accession to Pakistan was supported by many people, but they forget that today international opinion is against accession, and is in fact prepared to support Kashmiris if they form their own independent government.

"I have travelled to many countries, and wherever I went, people advised me to go for an independent Kashmir. I had the opportunity to meet many Congressmen and Senators in the United States recently, and you would not believe that most of them supported the Kashmiri cause to form an independent country.

"Similarly as many as 171 members of the British Parliament have condemned atrocities committed on innocent people in [Indian] Held Kashmir", he added.

He maintained that the decision "we have taken was necessary and well timed. We have been successful in the recent past in receiving foreign support from a number of countries. Had we delayed this decision, it would have been a disaster for us."

Mr. Amanullah said the JKLF was not going to stand in the way of India-Pakistan talks, "but as far as I know, Kashmir is not likely to be discussed during the proposed meeting. Therefore I do not think this meeting will be fruitful from our point of view.

"The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan will primarily be discussing the defusing of tension between the two countries and not the right of self-determination of the Kashmiris."

To another question, he said the Pakistan government was banking on the Simla Agreement, which, according to our interpretation is contradictory to the right of self determination.

"There is no mention of a right to self determination in the Simla Agreement. He said he believed that the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] government has its own difficulties and weaknesses. Moreover, people in the Benazir Bhutto administration were not well versed with the Kashmir issue and that was why no significant achievement has so far been made in this direction.

Criticizes Kashmir Leader's Stance

BK0307123390 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Jul 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Amanullah's red herring"]

[Text] The central and executive committees of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front [JKLF] have after a prolonged discussion at Rawalpindi decided to revoke the declaration regarding the establishment of a "provisional government" for Jammu and Kashmir made on behalf of the JKLF by the then Chairman of the organisation, Mr. Amanullah Khan. Describing Mr. Amanullah Khan's step as "unilateral, inopportune and unauthorised", the JKLF leadership also confirmed his interim suspension from the party's chairmanship. It has also been clarified that the reported decision of the JKLF to observe a ceasefire against Indian forces in the occupied territory related in fact to the new strategy adopted by the organisation to spread out resistance to the countryside as well, which would entail a corresponding reduction in armed activity in principal cities. The

JKLF's Vice Chairman has stated that this decision did not reflect any idea of conciliation on the part of his party with the Indian occupation of any part of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The JKLF has done well to rescind Mr. Amanullah Khan's intriguing declaration as also to clarify the real objective and import of the supposed ceasefire. Neither of the two developments could have advanced the cause of Kashmir's freedom from the tryannical hold of India against which the brave inhabitants of the area have mounted an unprecedented struggle since late last year. Although the JKLF leadership has not considered it proper to publicly state its assessment of the reasons which may have prompted Mr. Amanullah Khan to come out with his surprise declaration at a most crucial phase of the armed struggle for independence, there have of late been some disturbing signs suggesting that the deposed chairman's action may have been influenced by considerations other than the stated objectives of the party.

The most immediate and apparent outcome of Mr. Amanullah Khan's declaration and one which the seasoned and internationally well-connected politician could not himself have failed to anticipate was bound to be nothing else but confounding the complexion of the freedom struggle. The JKLF is welcome to stick to its consistent position of demanding independence for the entire territory of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, but, surely, the issue which is now being decided through the blood of valiant freedom fighters in the occupied valley of Srinagar is India's brutal occupation of a part of the area. Not only that the timing of Mr. Amanullah Khan's initiative could also undermine the universal relevance of the recently concluded electoral process in Azad Jammu and Kashmir as against the dreadful subjugation of the inhabitants of the territory under Indian occupation.

Finally, the indecent haste with which New Delhi proceeded to draw a connection between Mr. Amanullah's move and the contemplated round of talks which it had agreed to hold with Pakistan on the Foreign Secretaries' level, gave the entire drama an even more ominous ring. In fact, the "provisional government" charade could well have formed part of the larger game being sponsored by an influential section in the United States to "solve" the Kashmir dispute through a managed splitting up of the former state in a number of parts. Not only the Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control but the government of Pakistan as well must stay on guard against all such conspiracies.

Awami Leader Criticizes Policy on Kashmir

BK0407033790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] In Pakistan, the chief of the Awami National Party, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, has accused the Pakistani Government of blowing up the situation in Kashmir out of proportion in order to divert the people's attention from the real issues confronting the country. Addressing an 'Id [al-Adha] congregation at Ghazi Gulbagh Mosque at Charsadda near Peshawar yesterday, he said that instead of amplifying the Kashmir issue, the Pakistani Government should attend to the real problems facing the people like unemployment, poverty, lack of medicare, roads, drinking water, and housing facilities.

Army Chief Reaffirms Preparedness

BK0107043890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] General Mirza Aslam Beg, chief of the Army Staff, has said that the Army is fully prepared to meet any threat to the territorial frontiers of Pakistan. Addressing officers and soldiers at Jaranwala in Cholistan Desert yesterday, he said that if war is thrust upon us, it will be fought until all our objectives are achieved. He said every inch of the motherland is sacred and will be defended at all costs.

Paper Says India Creates War Psychosis

BK2906142190 Rawalpindi HAIDER in Urdu 19 Jun 90 p 3

[Editorial: "The Region Is in Need of Durable and Lasting Peace]

[Text] According to an article published in THE NEW YORK TIMES, an official of the U.S. Defense Department has advised India to end the human rights violations that are being committed by its security forces in occupied Kashmir and not to level allegations against Pakistan for interference in Kashmir with the intent of stalling this pertinent issue. Simultaneously, the paper has published a report quoting a source close to the Bush administration saying that although there is no indication of any immediate war between India and Pakistan, a war may break out between them in September or October. The report further says the main aim of the visit of U.S. adviser Robert Gates to the two countries was to see that both countries desist from the use of nuclear weapons in the event of a war.

Various analyses of the tension between India and Pakistan are being published in the Western media. However, the Western press also categorically admits that India's efforts at defusing tension are neither serious nor very positive. As far as the possibility of war is concerned, we feel that although the tension between the two countries has considerably decreased, they are still not far from a war.

India has not only deployed its forces along all its borders with Pakistan, but has also indulged in acts of subversion in Sindh. Therefore, under the circumstances, it is totally inappropriate to say that there is no possibility of war. In fact, by amassing its troops along the borders with Pakistan, India is executing a policy of bringing Pakistan under military and psychological pressure to force it to revise its stand on the Kashmir issue. But, in spite of all these factors, Pakistan has made it clear to India that Pakistan's policy on Kashmir, which is

based on principles, will be intact and continue as ever, and in the event of any military action against it, a befitting reply will be given. Hence, this reaction of Pakistan has overshadowed India's program of military concentration. By all means, India should not forget that in the event of any military action against Pakistan, it will have to meet stiff resistance and face defeat. Undoubtedly, Pakistan does not have aggressive designs against any country, including India. The main aspect of its policy is to maintain peace in South Asia at any cost to save the people of the region from the devastating effects of war and enable the governments to pay more and more attention to the welfare of their people. However, Pakistan is not at all indifferent in its defense matters. In the field of defense, it has consolidated its position so strongly that it can deal an extraordinary and powerful blow to any aggressor.

If India desires to defuse tension, first of all it should identify the steps which created the tension. In our opinion, a major cause for this tension is the Kashmir issue. By forcibly occupying Kashmir, India has laid a foundation for everlasting tension. Of course, the immediate cause for the tension is its troop concentration along the borders. If India wants to create a conducive atmosphere, it should immediately withdraw its troops to peacetime positions and end the series of allegations and the propaganda campaign against Pakistan. The state of everlasting confrontation and tension will also not be in the interest of India. If the Indian authorities adopt a positive mode of thinking, abandon their traditional policy of maintaining tense relations with Pakistan, and honor the UN resolutions and the aspirations of the international community on the Kashmir issue, there is no reason for friendly relations not to flourish between the two countries and the sun of peace and tranquility not to rise in the region.

'Bitter Afghan Foes' Meet on Political Solution

BK0407030790 Hong Kong AFP in English 0256 GMT 4 Jul 90

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, July 4 (AFP)—Bitter Afghan foes have been gathering here to seek a political solution to their 11-year-old war in what observers said was a surprise meeting of minds that bode well for the future.

"The ability of Afghans to disagree is remarkable, but what has happened in the past few weeks in Peshawar is a matter of great satisfaction for us," a U.S. diplomat observed. Peshawar is in the northwest part of Pakistan, near the border with Afghanistan.

The Pakistan-based Sunni resistance has for the first time joined the Iran-based Shiite Afghan parties in a bid to devise a policy for a transition of power in Kabul that satisfies all Afghan factions as well as the two superpowers, resistance sources said. A significant development was the presence of more than two dozen Afghan exiles in Europe, most of whom are known for their support of the controversial former king, Zahir Shah.

The royalists who were personal guests of Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, president of the Afghan Interim Government [AIG], have already submitted their proposals to help resolve the conflict, the sources added. They were submitted through a six-member working group headed by Muhammad Yusof, former prime minister under the king.

Despite differences, rival Shiite and Sunni sect leaders and supporters of the exiled king, whom Muslim fundamentalists had bitterly criticised, had had several luncheons and dinner meetings, the sources said.

Sources here said the hectic efforts follow the merger in Iran of eight Shiite factions into a Wahdat (Unity) Party and precede an expert-level meeting ahead of the Paris parleys between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker later this month. Afghan leaders have already set up a multiparty committee including leaders of three Peshawar-based Sunni parties who were not in the 16-month-old mujahidin government and pro-Iranian leaders Abdul Hadi and Aqai Mohaqqeqi.

A former vice chancellor of Kabul University, Hashim Mojaddedi, and another education expert under King Abdul Rehman Ulfat, both now serving in Saudi Arabia, as well as two religious leaders of the Ulema Council have also been inducted as members, they said.

Qazi Muhammad Amin Waqaad, an active member of the committee, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the immediate goal was to convene a conference of all party leaders. "We have no formula of our own. All we want is to listen to the party chiefs as each party has some ideas," he said.

Sources who did not wish to be named said the committee of nine might take the least controversial points of each party, including the royalist proposals, and submit its final recommendations for the leaders' endorsement. The response of several party chiefs shows that it would achieve its objective, Mr. Waqaad said.

The party leaders council could replace the mujahidin government, which acknowledges its own drawbacks, Mr. Waqaad said, adding that a representative government backed by all factions would get international recognition. Plagued with internal bickering, the mujahidin government failed to hold elections it had promised, which led its foreign minister and a radical fundamentalist leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, to pull out last year.

The sources said Mr. Hekmatyar has also shown interest in the committee's work to unite the Afghan jihad (holy war) forces. In an attempt to break his political isolation, Mr. Hekmatyar told a gathering here Monday [2 July] that he would support a move which would replace the

mujahidin government. Playing down insistence on elections, he said a new interim government could hold polls six months after its inception, a spokesman of his Hezb-e Eslami said.

Commenting on the new initiatives, Western diplomats said they were pleased with the "dynamics of the consultations," noting great frustration with the military and political deadlock.

Analysts said the consultations here followed Mr. Najibullah's decision to rename the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) as Hezb-e Watan (Homeland Party).

Occupying Soviet troops, the PDPA and Mr. Najibullah were the three obstacles to a negotiated solution to the Afghan crisis. The first two have been removed, but Mr. Najibullah's future role remains the stumbling block as the Americans believe that a majority of Afghans would never endorse his rule.

Diplomats said that since the Bush-Gorbachev summit in May, there have been "positive signs" that Moscow wanted to settle the Afghanistan problem. The Americans, who were "not committed to any particular structure," also favour some kind of "ad hoc mechanism which should lead to an act of self-determination," they said.

The Afghans were perhaps realizing that if they did not act quickly the two superpowers, helped by the apparent end of the cold war, could make their own deal, the diplomats remarked.

Groups Call for AIG's Replacement

BK0607015090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0138 GMT 6 Jul 90

[By Sami Zubeiri]

[Text] Islamabad, July 6 (AFP)—Afghan intellectuals, former ministers and diplomats say the resistance's Afghan Interim Government (AIG) is unrepresentative and are calling for its replacement. "It does not represent all the acceptable elements of the Afghan society," according to a report issued by a delegtion of more than 20 Afghans, most of whom are exiled in Europe.

They delivered their remarks to AIG President Sebghatullah Mojaddedi, who invited them to Pakistan to suggest methods of tackling the stalemate with the Soviet-backed regime of Najibullah in Kabul.

"The Afghanistan situation has now reached a sensitive phase, which calls for bringing about a new political condition," a communique delivered by the delegation to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here Thursday [5 July] said. The group supported free elections for a shura (council) or loya jirga (tribal assembly) as the means for achieving the political and social objectives of the nation's struggle. It also stressed that the military struggle should continue until the way was paved for a transfer of power in Kabul and called for efforts to evolve a joint military and political strategy.

The delegation's visit coincided with a parallel conference of a nine-member committee of rival Sunni and Shiite Afghans and factions outside the AIG, which convened the meeting to devise a policy for a transition of power. The group, calling itself an advisers delegation, included top officials and diplomats who served under Afghan King Zahir Shah before he was overthrown by Sardar Mohammed Daud in 1973. The king now lives in exile in Italy.

The delegation said disagreement in the AIG, in which neither the Iran-based Shiite Muslims nor monarchists are represented, has intensified while the political initiative so far remained in the hands of regional and international supporters of the jihad (holy war) against Kabul.

The moderate group condemning the Soviet military intervention of 1979 supported the objectives of the resistance and backed the idea of establishing a state "based on Islamic principles and Islamic culture without any bigotry and prejudice." But it observed that since the signing of the Geneva accord in April 1988, which led to the Soviet Army's withdrawal from Afghanistan in February last year, the gulf between the mujahidin regional and international supporters had also "widened." Praising the mujahidin's role in the Soviet troops pull out, it regretted that Afghanistan could not fully benefit from the fruits of its jihad because of the absence of a political entity.

It said the new political condition should accommodate representatives of refugees and all Afghan factions "excluding the Soviet agents and other atheist elements." Political matters should be handled by "informed people who are sincere to the objective of the jihad and not related to the jihad organizations," it said. "In that case we will be in a position to participate in the realization of these objectives," it said.

The group known as monarchists had so far been opposed by fundamentalist parties for remaining aloof from the Afghan struggle. It met with visiting Iran-based Afghans and some moderate party chiefs.

The communique, which did not say who will initiate the new process, avoided the name of the exiled king whom fundamentalist factions blame for the present crisis.

Sri Lanka

President Urges LTTE To Cooperate for Polls

BK0507112990 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] President R. Premadasa, addressing the government parliamentary group meeting yesterday, said that the government will continue its endeavor to find political solutions to national issues, including problems in the north and the east through the process of consultation,

compromise, and consensus. The president said that the government's position was that an atmosphere should be created to hold peaceful elections in the Northern and Eastern Provinces. All political parties and groups should be given the opportunity to contest the elections.

He said that during the talks with the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam], they wanted the people to be given the right early to reelect their representatives. They also wanted the elections to the Northeastern Provincial Council held early. When the government was attempting to give the people the opportunity of electing their representatives, the attacks on the police and armed services personnel took place. They declared war just when a bill to amend the Provincial Councils Act to hold elections was being proposed. The president declared they have not abandoned their peace efforts. He said that the ball was in their court. The LTTE must, if they are genuine on holding elections, provide the facilities and the atmosphere where all sections should contest democratic elections.

The president said that the government has identified 20 national issues which needed consensus from all parties to implement them. He would like the political parties which are still out of the all-party conference to participate and discuss these problems and arrive at solutions acceptable to all. The president said that the entire world knows that the government has acted patiently and sincerely in solving the problems through discussion. The president reiterated that they always wanted to avoid a war.

Communique Issued on Fighting Situation, Casualties

BK0507121090 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Text] No major encounters or incidents were reported from the affected areas in the Northern and Eastern Provinces during the last 24 hours ending at 1200 yesterday. According to a communique issued by the Information Department, the security forces engaged themselves in clearing, cordon, search, and flushing-out operations in many different locations. These included clearing of routes, disposal of mines and explosive devices, and evacuation of several injured civilians to hospital. On the Puttalam-Mannar Road, troops have reached Silavatturai. Several LTTE terrorists have been killed and many others wounded. In Trincomalee, the security forces, in an encounter with the LTTE terrorists, killed 18 terrorists and wounded a large number. The Sri Lankan security forces lost three soldiers and six have been wounded. Among the items recovered from the terrorists are light machine guns, mortars, hand grenades, and mines.

The security forces have been instructed to give the highest priority to making the Batticaloa and Amparai areas safe for refugees to return as soon as possible. Refugees are reluctant to go back as the fleeing LTTE terrorists have left mines, booby traps, and explosive devices.

The commissioner general of essential services is carrying out a survey of food stocks that are available in the Northern Province in particular, as the terrorists are obstructing the movement of food supplies to the affected areas. The commissioner general of essential services states that he has already made arrangements to send several convoys of food supplies to the Northern Province through the International Committee of the Red Cross under the Red Cross flag.

The communique further said that the latest reports from Air Force personnel flying over the Northern Province indicate that the fleeing terrorists have set fire to several valuable forest reserves, thus causing irreparable damage to the timber resources and wildlife.

The amount received by the National Defense Fund stood at 42 million rupees. The unending flow of donations to the National Defense Fund continues.

President Premadasa is deeply concerned about the care and welfare of the injured armed services and police personnel and the dependents of those who have been killed in action. The president has noted that 260 armed services and police personnel have up to now sacrificed their lives to preserve the unity and territorial integrity of our country and the sovereignty and the democratic traditions of our people. The number of missing in action is 640. The number injured in action is in the region of 450. He has directed the secretary to the Ministry of Defense to ensure that members of their families and their dependents are not left in the lurch. The salaries, allowances, and all other rights and privileges which were enjoyed by those who sacrificed their lives should be made available to the immediate family members.

Rebels Kill 13 Soldiers; Minister Vows Pursuit

BK0507143490 Hong Kong AFP in English 1418 GMT 5 Jul 90

[Excerpts] Colombo, July 5 (AFP)—Tamil guerrillas ambushed and killed 13 soldiers in eastern Sri Lanka on Thursday [5 July] and hours later a senior minister vowed to pursue them into the jungles. A military spokesman here said that guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) ambushed a truck loaded with soldiers in eastern Trincomalee district by exploding a mine and then opening fire with automatic weapons, killing 13 of the troopers. The spokesman said several other soldiers were believed to have suffered injuries. It was not known how many were travelling in the truck.

The soldiers had been on their way to secure an area on the Trincomalee-Anuradhapura road, where hundreds of mines planted by the rebels had been destroyed or deactivated by security forces hours earlier, the spokesman said.

LTTE guerrillas, fighting for control of the Tamil-majority Northeast, have mined large tracts of overland routes in a

bid to stall the advance of government troops engaged in mopping up operations in the region. [passage omitted]

Thursday's killing of the soldiers came hours before Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne told reporters in parliament that security forces would nab the guerrillas, even if they fled into the jungles. Hundreds of LTTE rebels, most of them in their teens, have escaped the army's dragnet and fled into thick jungles, apparently to launch a guerrilla war against the troops.

"We are going into the jungles. These operations will continue until we hunt them down," Mr. Wijeratne said. He admitted that the Tigers controlled most parts of the northern Jaffna peninsula but said "they will be meeting their Waterloo soon."

The military spokesman said that at least 10 LTTE rebels were killed Wednesday [4 July] in a shootout with troops near the Palaly army camp in the North, adding that five soldiers were wounded in the fighting.

Troops also shot dead three guerrillas in northwestern Mannar on Wednesday while a soldier was killed during "on-going operations to flush out the rebels" in Kankesanthurai on the Jaffna peninsula, the spokesman said.

The spokesman added that on the same day, troops gunned down two guerrillas in eastern Batticaloa district and captured another with an assault rifle and several cyanide capsules. LTTE activists are known to take cyanide capsules when captured by security forces.

Defence Secretary Cyril Ranatunga told reporters that more than 300 security servicemen and 419 LTTE fighters had been killed so far in the renewed violence. He added that only five civilians had died in the crossfire. But official and unofficial sources dispute these figures, and place the number dead in the fighting at more than 1200, including civilians.

The military spokesman said there were reports that a regional LTTE leader in Mannar, [named] Thusendran, had deserted the rebels and was planning to join the army. "The army is willing to accept him and also other rebels who are disillusioned with the Tigers," the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, military officials here said that the main hospital in northern Mullaitivu was not functioning, as the district medical officer and the hospital staff had been taken away by the LTTE to a rebel camp in the district. The LTTE was using the staff of the Mullaitivu hospital to treat their injured cadres, an official said.

Rebels Reinforce Stockpile Around Jaffna Fort

BK0607093690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Jul 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the LTTE are reported to have further reinforced the mortar and rocket stockpile around Jaffna Fort which they continue to siege. They are also attacking (?Vasavilan) area near Palali airport. No casualty is reported. Official reports from Colombo say that in the encounter in the Eastern Province, two soldiers including an officer were killed in Kalmunai and nine others injured and one LTTE man killed in Sammanturai. Encounters have also been reported from Amparai and Batticaloa area where an LTTE TV and video center has been captured by the army.

The death toll of army soldiers in the LTTE ambush in Anuradhapura-Trincomalee Road yesterday rose to 16. As already reported, the parliament is debating on the second day today the Provincial Councils Amendment Bill to disqualify members who violate the oath of office. Voting will take place at 1430 [0900 GMT] today. EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students] continue to boycott the session.

Tamil Group Condemns Indian Tamil 'Interference'

BK0407162190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 4 Jul 90

[Text] Colombo, July 4 (AFP)—A Tamil group Wednesday [4 July] blasted an Indian Tamil politician for "poking his head" into Sri Lanka's affairs. The Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front (ENDLF) accused Muthuvel Karunanidhi, chief minister of India's southern Tamil Nadu State, of supporting its violent rival, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

An ENDLF statement here, referring to Mr. Karunanidhi's statements condemning Colombo's military offensive against the LTTE, said it "vehemently condemns" such interference. It said Mr. Karunanidhi made the statements "with the sole aim of protecting the LTTE that is now losing ground in the northeast and running into the jungles."

The ENDLF is a partner in the provincial government in the island's northeast whose dissolution the LTTE has repeatedly demanded. Like most Sri Lankan Tamil groups, it opposes Mr. Karunanidhi because he supports the LTTE.

The statement also attacked the Tamil Nadu chief minister for not accepting the hundreds of Tamils who fled Sri Lanka to India ahead of a pullout in March this year by Indian troops deployed in the island since mid-1987.

"Is it not a shame on him to continue as chief minister even after the brutal murder of 13 EPRLF leaders in the heart of his capital by the ruthless LTTE?" it asked.

The comment was referring to the assassination of Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) leader K. Padmanabha and others in Madras, Tamil Nadu's capital, last month by gunmen believed to be from the LTTE.

"Hence ENDLF requests him (Mr. Karunandihi) to mind his own business," the statement said. "We are bold enough to sort out our own problems."

Tamil Nadu, home to some 55 million Indian Tamils, is separated from Sri Lanka by a narrow strip of sea. Until

mid-1987, Tamil groups carried out their separatist campaign using Tamil Nadu as a sanctuary. According to news reports, the LTTE, which is now fighting Sri Lankan security forces, is still using the state to stock weapons and for recuperation with the tacit consent of Mr. Karunanidhi.

President on Subversion, Indian Troop Pullout

BK0107122490 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 1 Jul 90

[Text] The same nefarious elements, who are creating problems in the north and east of the country, are aiming to disrupt the prevailing peaceful conditions in the south, says President R. Premadasa. He urged the people to be vigilant and not to fall a prey to their vicious traps.

Addressing the gathering of people's representatives and officials at the Nuwara Eliya Town Hall yesterday, the president said that the enemies of the innocent people are trying to create problems in the estate sector by provoking the people there. This will result in the disruption of estate economy and create more problems and difficulties for the people.

The president pointed out that the world is now agreeing to the fact that the government has tried its best to solve the problems in a just and fair manner. The discussions with the LTTE has helped to build a world opinion favorable to Sri Lanka. The president said that this has also helped to eliminate the fear psychosis situation created by the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna].

The president emphasized that there is great harmony among the Sinhala and Tamil communities today. The language problem has also been solved in a just manner. The recruitment to the security forces would be conducted by considering qualifications and the ethnic ratio.

Referring to the present crisis in the north and the east, the president said that the confrontation, which is taking place, is against stubbornness. President Premadasa said that this government has the power of the people, not the strength of arms. He noted that the Indian troops arrived in Sri Lanka to restore peace in the north and the east and engaged in confrontation. The Indian Government has withdrawn the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] due to the pressure of the Indian media and the voice of the people. The new Indian Government has allowed Sri Lanka to solve its internal problems without any interference. The president expressed the hope that this problem can be solved internally.

Paper Notes Separatist Tendency in South India

BK2706102890 Colombo SUN in English 14 Jun 90 p 7

[Editorial: "Separatist Tendency"]

[Text] The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mutuvel Karunanidhi, is shouting from the rooftop that he is not in favour of a separate state in South India as alleged by certain other politicians and mediamen in India.

Yet his denial seems to be doubted by his rivals as well as other people who have fears of balkanisation of India in the near future.

In fact strong views on this matter have been expressed by the ultra Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). As we reported in the "SUN" yesterday the BJP Vice President Jana Krishnamurty has hinted at the possibility of separatist moves especially among the Tamil Nadu youth.

The BJP Vice President has also mentioned the links that the Tamil Nadu youths have established with the Lankan rebels and also the location of certain guerrilla training bases in South India.

Mr. Karunanidhi has of course denied all these allegations. But whether his credibility is acceptable to most people in India is another matter. The BJP for once seems to doubt these denials. It even claimed that the Chief Minister is not only aware of these operations but that he might also be indirectly supporting them.

Indeed the secessionist moves in Tamil Nadu are anathema to the Centre in New Delhi. The ongoing separatist conflicts in many other parts of India are causing immense problems to that government.

Such separatist cries across the Palk Straits could undoubtedly generate political and security complications in this country too. Especially so because of the ongoing violence in the northeastern regions. Sri Lanka must act with extreme caution and vigilance in this regard.

India too is evidently taking some new steps to prevent further escalation of rebel activity in the volatile waters. According to a report in the press yesterday its navy will patrol the northern seas to intercept rebel movements between the two countries.

Separatism is nothing new to some of the sectarian politicians of Tamil Nadu. Demands made in this respect in the past culminated in the introduction of constitutional reforms that called for bans on separatism with deterrent penalties.

Once again the spectre of secessionist demand has surfaced in South India, though in a very subtle and clandestine manner.